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**SATURDAY - SUNDAY NOVEMBER 26-27, 2011** 

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### **OPINION METER**

This week's poll:

Where do you intend to spend Thanksgiving this year?

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J.K. Rowling describes how press intrusion made her feel like a prisoner in her own home.

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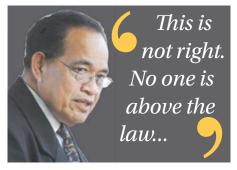
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# Fitial mulls stopping USCIS

» Kilili: Grant of parole is clearly on case-bycase basis

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

ov. Benigno R. Fitial described it as "not right" and "shocking" U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to consider a grant of parole until Dec. 31, 2012, for immediate relatives of U.S.



citizens and certain "stateless" individuals. But USCIS said the grant of parole is on a "caseby-case basis," and eligible individuals have to apply for this kind of parole.

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# Parents of kids with disabilities express relief

By MONETH G. DEPOSA moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Parents of Children with Disabilities Coalition on Saipan, headed by president Jane Curioso, said yesterday that they were relieved after learning the directive of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services that it will consider granting parole until Dec. 31, 2012, for immediate relatives of U.S. citizens and certain individuals without status in the CNMI.

USCIS said Thursday that this parole See PARENTS on Page 4



# Local

# Flores says bank's shredding of documents extremely suspect

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE REPORTER

Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores insists that the record of his Time Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$200,000 could not have disappeared without any negligence or intentional destruction of the document.

Flores, through counsel Juan T. Lizama, in his opposition to Union Bank of California's motion for removal and motion to dismiss his lawsuit, said the shredding of documents is extremely suspect.

Lizama said the fact that most of Union Bank's employees transferred to First Hawaiian

Bank increases the likelihood that any of them could have been involved in the negligence or deliberate destruction of his CD record in order for FHB to avoid paying Flores.

"It is common knowledge, to be proven at trial, that FHB simply moved to the same building occupied by Union Bank," Lizama said.

Lizama said the mayor's reliance in the safety of his CD record is reasonable even after the sale of Union Bank.

"It is not foreseeable that Union Bank would destroy an outstanding record in less than of selling its bank assets," the

former judge pointed out.

Lizama said it is not rational for Union Bank to suggest that the CD records are unavailable because the CD closed more than 10 years ago.

"Did the record get destroyed or become missing after the sale of the assets? Or is Union Bank saying that the records were destroyed during the period of time from the date of issuance of the CD to the time the bank was sold?" the lawyer asked.

If this happened, Lizama said, Union Bank's liability is absolutely certain.

"It is not foreseeable that 10 years for a mere anticipation Union Bank would have deliberately destroyed the CD record

for whatever reason during the less than 10 years from the time of issuance to the time of sale," he said.

But it is foreseeable, Lizama said, for a bank employee or officer to destroy Flores' CD record or any other account record still outstanding.

Lizama asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to allow Flores to proceed to trial and to allow Flores to amend his complaint if the court believes that is necessary.

Flores is suing Union Bank of California and FHB for breach of contract, unjust enrichment, negligence or gross negligence, breach of fiduciary duty, and fraud.

Lizama stated in the complaint that Flores bought the CD in the principal amount of \$200,000 that was issued in his name by the Saipan branch of the Union Bank on Sept. 10, 1993.

Lizama said his client kept the issued certificate with the intent of eventually redeeming it.

Lizama said an officer or employee of Union Bank Flores' lawsuit.

signed the CD.

Lizama said that on Nov. 15, 2001, Union Bank sold all assets and liabilities of its Saipan branch office to First Hawaiian Bank.

The Union Bank of California has asserted that it does not owe any special duties to Flores.

Union Bank of California joined FHB's motion to dismiss

# Police identify driver of getaway vehicle used in Garapan robbery

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Investigators have already identified the driver of a getaway vehicle used by Gustavo Ybanez Jr., the arrested suspect in last week's robbery during which a female Japanese tourist was dragged several meters by a car.

Sources at the Department of Public Safety disclosed yesterday that the driver of the vehicle used in the robbery was Oscar Porras Jr., a cousin of Ybanez.

On Tuesday night, police arrested 33-year-old Porras for allegedly stealing a case of beer from Grand Market on Lower Navy Hill, while Ybanez was apprehended for the Garapan robbery.

Sources said that Porras posted bail after a hearing on Wednesday and since yesterday police have been hunting him in connection with the Garapan robbery.

This developed as Ybanez allegedly confessed to detectives that it was Porras who was the driver of their getaway vehicle—a dark-colored Nissan Pathfinder.

Reportedly after the robbery, Ybanez and Porras split the \$350 cash they found in the victim's bag. Ybanez gave \$150 cash to Porras.

The Nissan Pathfinder actually belongs to Porras' girlfriend, sources said.

Ybanez allegedly admitted that after grabbing the tourist's bag, he ran on the sidewalk and jumped into the front passenger side of the Nissan Pathfinder that Porras had parked in front of Bobby's Cadillacs on Beach Road, Garapan, on Nov. 16, Wednesday night.

In that robbery, the victim, Miki Takamatsu, suffered bruises and scratches on the left arm, fingers, and right knee.

Takamatsu and her boyfriend were walking on the pathway near Bobby Cadillacs when a man came from behind them and grabbed her purse.

Takamatsu chased the suspect and held on to the rear passenger door, but the vehicle sped off. The tourist fell to the ground and was dragged several meters. The vehicle's rear tire also ran over her left arm.

# CCA's Nishida gets national honor

Nishida

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Calvary Christian Academy's Midori Nishida was recently accepted to the National Society of High School Scholars in recognition of her superior

academic excellence and achievement in school.

Nishida's acceptance to the prestigious organization was announced by its founder and chairman, Claes Nobel.

"On behalf of NSHSS, I am honored to recognize the hard work, sacrifice, and commitment that Midori has demonstrated to achieve this level of academic excellence. Midori is now a member of a unique community of scholars—a community that represents our very best hope for the future," said Nobel in his letter to the student.

Formed in 2002, the National Society of High School Scholars recognizes academic excellence at the high school level and encourages members of the orga-

nization to apply their unique talents, vision, and potential for the betterment of themselves and the world.

Members of the organization are entitled to a wide variety of benefits, including scholarship opportunities, academic

competitions, free events, member-only resources, publications, participation in programs offered by educational partners, online forums, personalized recognition items, and publicity honors.

According to NSHHS president James Lewis, the society's vision is to build a dynamic international organization that connects members with meaningful content, resources, and opportunities.

"We aim to help students like Midori build on their academic successes and enhance the skills and desires to have a positive impact on the global community," said Lewis.

The society recognizes top scholars and invites only those students who have achieved academic excellence.



# Kilili heeds the speaker's call for lawmakers to undergo drug test

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

haidee eugenio@saipantribune.com

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) heeded House Speaker Eli Cabrera's (R-Saipan) call for lawmakers to undergo drug test, to help remove suspicion in anyone's mind about lawmakers on the heels of Rep. Ray Pala-

cios' (Cov-Saipan) arrest on charges of drug trafficking.

Sablan volunteered to take a drug test on Nov. 3, and the result came back "negative" for drug use. A copy of the drug test result Sablan was obtained only yesterday.

"The speaker has asked other members to do it. I'm not part of the [CNMI] Legislature but I think I should be treated no more, no less than other elected officials so I did volunteer, and went on my own [to take a drug test]," he said in an interview yesterday.

The delegate is only the sixth among CNMI elected officials to voluntarily undergo drug test in

the wake of the speaker's call.

House floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan) separately said yesterday that he has yet to get copies of the results of drug tests of other members of the Special Standing Committee on Official Conduct and Ethics, which he chairs.

The committee was specifi-

cally created to investigate Rep. Raymond Palacios' alleged drug use. Palacios stepped down as chairman of the House Committee on Education.

The speaker was the first one to voluntarily undergo a drug test and the result came

back "negative." Camacho's drug test result also came back "negative."

Three other House members who underwent drug testingcommittee members Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) and Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan)—have yet to report the results of their drug tests as

# of yesterday, said Camacho.

# Decision on who will sign for hospital loan delays drawdown of MPLT funds

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

The Marianas Public Land Trust is in a wait-and-see mode as the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board dithers on who should sign for the \$1.8 million loan that it will use to upgrade its electronic health record system.

The MPLT board approved in principle last month the corporation's loan proposal. The amount is assigned a 5-percent interest annually and must be paid in an 18-month term upon receipt of the amount.

But MPLT board chair Alvaro Santos disclosed that as of last week, no sufficient information has been provided by the corporation on who will be the signatory of the loan agreement.

The promissory note, he said, can be signed by either the corporation's chief executive officer, Juan N. Babauta, or by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial on behalf of the central government.

In a visit to the corporation on Tuesday, both Babauta and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos confirmed with Saipan Tribune that no decision has been reached on the matter and that it is still on the table for discussion.

"We're taking the position of wait-and-see until they [corporation and central government] get themselves together. But I know one thing: this project is time-sensitive and they are already losing out on the first year for fiscal year 2011, when stage one [of the project] is supposed to start. So if they postpone it, I don't know what kind of signal they

want to show to the federal government," said Santos.

The board instructed MPLT executive director Bruce Mc-Millan to talk with Babauta to get the decision and plans for the project once and for all. The members deferred making any decision on the matter and gave the parties more time to make a definite decision.

Although the board understands that there are more pressing matters at the hospital as a result of the corporation's recent transition on Oct. 1, Santos said the corporation and its board should also be mindful about the importance of the electronic health record project, which will help them generate revenues.

Santos earlier said that because the central government has no capital to fund the project, MPLT was approached by both the administration and the corporation to provide the loan, which will be paid using reimbursements from the federal government. The \$1.8-million loan will be used to complete stage 1 of the project and, once completed, the CNMI will get reimbursed the amount.

Under the American Recovery Reinvestment Act, about \$19 billion is set aside to build health information technology systems nationwide and the CNMI is qualified to receive over \$5 million incentives and bonus, provided it will show meaningful use of the new system.

The electronic health record system project aims to modernize the health information technology of the Commonwealth Health Center and the Tinian and Rota health clinics.

# New initiative seeks to set aside \$25M yearly for Fund

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com

REPORTER

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) pre-filed on Tuesday a new legislative initiative that would set aside \$25 million each fiscal year to guarantee payment of the government's employer contribution to the NMI Retirement Fund.

Senate Legislative Initiative 17-15 is the third initiative that Manglona has introduced or pre-filed this month, along with one bill, to help save the pension agency.

If the initiative passes the Senate and House, it will be preat the next general or special

SLI 17-15 seeks to amend Section (a) of Article III of the CNMI Constitution.

"In further preparing the proposed balanced budget, the governor shall first set aside not less than \$25 million of the resources to pay the government employer contribution to the NMI Retirement

Fund each fiscal year until paid in full," the initiative says.

Manglona said the Fund pay-

Manglona

sented to voters for ratification ment shall be treated like bond payments and be given first priority each fiscal year.

"By mandating such a payment each year, the government will be forced to adjust

its expenditures to meet its obligation to the Retirement Fund for the benefit of the members of the Fund who are retirees and/ or beneficiaries and active government employees," he said.

Two other initiatives—SLI 17-13 and SLI 17-14—were formally introduced on Nov. 16.

SLI 17-13 authorizes the Fund to receive proceeds of existing public land leases for hotels, golf courses, and other large public land leases, while SLI 17-14 authorizes public land interest proceeds, which has been going to the general fund in the past, to be diverted to the Fund until such time that the government debt to the Fund is paid in full.

Manglona also introduced Senate Bill 17-96, which transfers the title of many vacant government properties with buildings on Capital Hill, Navy Hill, Garapan, Rota, and Tinian to the Fund to generate money. It intends to transfer such properties to the Retirement Fund to offset some of the government's employer contribution debt to the Retirement Fund.



NMHC BOARD MEETING

Members of the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. discuss the Community Development Block Grant funding for the proposed junior high school for Public School System during Monday's meeting.





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# Kilili joins 38 Congress members in opposing Alabama law

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) has joined 38 other members of Congress in opposing an Alabama law that they consider "anti-immigrant."

The controversial Alabama immigration law instructs employers to check a worker's immigration status with the government's E-Verify system.

Rep. Rep. Luis Gutierrez (IL-4), chair of the Immigration Task Force of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and 38 other House Democrats including Sablan, an independent who aligns himself with the Democratic Party, signed a brief of amicus curiae in support of the U.S. Department of Justice's lawsuit against Alabama's HB 56.

The amicus brief, filed Monday, asserts that the Alabama law is unconstitutional because it is preempted by federal law. The amicus brief also highlights the harm that the Alabama statute will cause to all Alabamans, including citizens.

Sablan, in an interview yesterday, said federal immigration is a "federal jurisdiction."

He said if the CNMI, for example, tries to preempt immigration law, "that's wrong and we should protect the Constitution of the United States."

Human rights advocate and former Rota teacher Wendy Doromal, in her blog Unheard No More, asked whether Sablan, by opposing the Alabama law, will now support rights for all of the legal aliens in his own district, the CNMI.

"Will he also openly oppose CNMI's latest labor law that attempts to preempt federal law? Or does he just support justice and rights for all undocumented and documented aliens in the mainland?" Doromal asked.

Sablan's pending HR 1466 seeks a grant of CNMI-only resident status for four groups of people in the CNMI, including immediate relatives of U.S. citizens.

Doromal reiterated that Sablan's bill

excludes some 12,000 other legal foreign workers.

Sablan said there's nothing in the U.S. immigration law that says these 12,000 workers are entitled to improved status.

"What I'm trying to do is help U.S. citizens who happened to have immediate relatives who are third country nationals. That's what I've always said I would help," he added.

In a statement by Rep. Luis Gutier-

rez, he said the "Constitution is quite clear about the federal government's preeminent role in immigration matters and having 50 inconsistent state policies toward immigrants is a level of chaos the Founders sought to avoid.

"HB 56 adds layers of punitive measures targeting Alabama residents that are inconsistent with federal policy. Congress has the responsibility to balance many concerns in legislating federal immigration policy, such as law en-

forcement, the economy, family unity, education, civil rights, and so on. HB 56 has and will cause irreparable harm to communities and families throughout Alabama, but will also cause irreparable damage to constitutional principles if allowed to stand. We join the U.S. Department of Justice, civil rights organizations, immigrant advocates, educators, and people of faith in calling for HB 56 to be stripped from Alabama's law books," he said.

# Man arrested for alleged rape attempt on sis-in-law

Police arrested a 53-year-old man who allegedly attempted to rape his 55-year-old sister-in-law and assaulted her at her residence in Kagman on Thursday night.

Robostiano Rull Matsutaro was arrested yesterday morning at his residence in Kagman 3 for attempted rape, disturbing the peace, and assault and battery.

Superior Court associate judge Jo-

seph James Norita Camacho imposed a \$26,250 cash bail for Matsutaro's temporary release.

Detective Raymond Borja, who took the witness stand, said that police officers responded to the victim's residence in Kagman after receiving a call about the attempted rape on Thursday at 11:06pm.

Preliminary investigation showed that the victim told responding officers

that her brother-in-law, Matsutaro, attempted to rape her and assaulted her in the process. The victim reportedly had bruises and scratches on her thighs.

The victim told police that she was in bed when a man she later identified as Matsutaro sat on top of her and tried to rape her. The victim struggled, shouted, and screamed. Matsutaro ran outside and fled on his car. (Ferdie de la Torre)

# **PARENTS**

From Page 1

will allow individuals who are lawfully present in the CNMI as of Nov. 27, 2011, to maintain legal status in the CNMI beyond that date.

"It's a good news for us and honestly, we we're relieved for the meantime. We want to thank Congressman [Gregorio Kilili C.] Sablan for all his help. Our organization truly appreciates his assistance for our children and our families," she told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that there are over 50 children with special needs covered by the coalition on Saipan.

Curioso said the association is among

the four specific groups that will directly benefit from Sablan's bill that is awaiting action in Congress.

Sablan's H.R. 1466 seeks a grant of CNMI-only resident status for immediate relatives of U.S. citizens as of May 8, 2008, and continuing to be on the islands; CNMI permanent residents; those born in the CNMI between Jan. 1, 1974 and Jan. 9, 1978; and spouses, parents, or children of U.S. citizens under the Immigration and Nationality Act.

The coalition is composed of about 60 members, of whom 38 are parents of children with disabilities in the Public School System.

Curioso is mother to a 12-year-old child with autism. She lost her job in January this year due to the bad econ-

omy and has failed to find a new one. She said other members of the group are in the same situation.

She revealed that since last month, coalition members have been applying for parole-in-place, with the assistance of the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy System Inc.

Of the 38 applications filed by coalition members, Curioso said that two have already been issued parole-in-place so far, allowing them to stay with their U.S.-born children with special needs.

Saipan Tribune learned that Curioso, who has been petitioned for a CW-2 permit by her husband, is also seeking parole-in-place to make sure she can stay with her child. She said that many parents are not currently employed due

to the declining business climate and the full-time need to take care of their children with special needs.

If it will not be possible for them to get improved statuses, Curioso said they would ask to be allowed to extend their stay in the CNMI until at least the completion of the secondary education of their children. "We're still optimistic that Congressman Kililii's bill will be passed next year."

A 38-year-old mother, Armie Espectacion, was also elated upon learning that she could now apply for parole that would allow her to stay in the CNMI until at least December 2012. She said the directive brought some relief to the uncertainties being experienced by nonresident workers, especially those

with children with special needs.

Espectacion has a 12-year-old child diagnosed with attention hyperactivity disorder. She lost her job in April due to the unstable condition of her former company. She vowed to do her best to find a new employer in the next 12 months to ensure her continued stay with her child.

Monette Beltran, a 43-year-old mother of three U.S.-born children, said yesterday that the consideration made by the USCIS is a great help for her children, especially her 9-year-old child with autism and attention hyperactivity disorder.

"I am relieved because my child with special need can continue to avail of the critical services he needs," she added.

# **FITIAL**

From Page 1

Fitial's statement, issued Thursday night, said he has instructed Attorney General Edward Buckingham to "review USCIS conduct and give me advice on how we might proceed."

Fitial also said he might file a lawsuit to stop USCIS from granting parole up to Dec 31, 2012, especially to those who are a "burden" to the CNMI or who are jobless.

"I might go that route [lawsuit] but I have to wait for the attorney general's decision," Fitial said in an interview last night at a Christmas tree/Nativity lighting ceremony at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The governor was reacting to what he considers "blanket parole to potentially thousands of individuals not authorized to remain in the CNMI."

"This is not right. No one is above the law and a federal agency should not change rules to accommodate a political request in anticipation of a bill that is not law," Fitial said.

Fitial was referring to Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's pending H.R. 1466, which seeks a grant of CNMI-only resident status for four groups of people, including immediate relatives of U.S. citizens as of May 8, 2008, and continuing to be on the islands; CNMI permanent residents; those born in the CNMI between Jan. 1, 1974, and Jan. 9, 1978; and spouses, parents, or children of U.S. citizens under the Immi-

gration and Nationality Act.

The bill is not yet on House calendar for action, but Kilili hopes it will be passed before the end of the year.

Sablan, when asked for comment on Fitial's statement, said the USCIS decision "was for a grant of parole on a case-by-case basis."

"Nowhere in the decision was a discussion of blanket parole," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Fitial, who accused Sablan of missing the point of the federalization law, said he has a heart, and that heart belongs to CNMI people.

"How about Kilili? Where does his heart belong?" he asked.

# 'Contradicts promises'

The governor said USCIS' action was "shocking and contradicts promises made in February 2011" by USCIS director Alejandro Mayorkas.

"I met with the USCIS director Mayorkas and we discussed the issue of 'blanket parole.' Director Mayorkas promised me that USCIS would not grant blanket parole. Director Mayorkas specifically committed USCIS to conduct and complete its case-by-case review prior to Nov. 27, 2011," Fitial said

Press secretary Angel Demapan earlier said that Fitial will request a meeting with Mayorkas when he heads to Washington, D.C. in February for a National Governors Association meeting.

Sablan had said Mayorkas called him around 5am on Thursday to announce the USCIS decision.

# Delayed enforcement

The governor said USCIS "isn't really taking action."

"Instead, it has failed and continues to fail to meet its duty to undertake a case-by-case review. If allowed to stand, USCIS will delay enforcement of federal immigration provisions in the Commonwealth," Fitial said.

He said this will mean "thousands of people will remain who don't have jobs, who continue to drain scarce social resources in the areas of health, education, and welfare. Those who have jobs will continue to send money off-island rather than contributing to a growing economy. And, with non-citizen workers willing to work in highly skilled jobs for \$5.05 an hour, the economy of the CNMI will remain weak."

Fitial also said his duty as governor is to serve the people of the Commonwealth.

"They are being hurt by the refusal and failure of USCIS to perform its duties. I have instructed the attorney general to review USCIS conduct and give me advice on how we might proceed," he said.

In terms of goals, the governor said: "The Commonwealth needs real economic growth, not cheap political promises to those who are hurting our local economy and locals who want to get jobs at a living wage. I want to be fair. I also want USCIS to do its job."

Sablan said on Thanksgiving that HR 1466 tries to help U.S. citizens who happen to have nonresident immediate relatives

He said in a separate statement that

U.S. Public Law 110-229, which extended U.S. immigration to the CNMI, principally focused on the status of foreign workers and investors.

"But other people with longstanding ties to the Marianas and family members of U.S. citizens, who might not be workers or investors, were not considered. Sablan's legislation addresses that oversight," Sablan's statement said.

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, welcomed the USCIS announcement.

"We're happy with the USCIS decision of parole for four groups of people, but at the same time UWM is still asking parole-in-place for all legal aliens in the CNMI," said Syed in an interview at the Occupy USCIS tent yesterday afternoon.

Syed said they plan to continue with their peaceful vigil until Nov. 29, but will ask the Department of Public Lands and the Coastal Resources Management to extend their permit for two days. Their DPL/CRm permit is valid only until Nov. 27.

As of yesterday afternoon, many nonresidents were still preparing requests for parole, two days before the Nov. 27 expiration of their umbrella permits.

Reynaldo Garcia, 41, has been helping many nonresidents write their request for humanitarian parole for several days now, and has been spending long hours at the Occupy USCIS tent near the USCIS office in Garapan.

Garcia, whose Commonwealthonly worker petition has already been filed, said it's always good to help others in need.

# Who qualifies?

USCIS said those who can stay in the CNMI after Nov. 27, 2011 and apply for this type of parole are:

- An immediate relative of a U.S. citizen. An immediate relative is a legal spouse, unmarried child under 21 years old or parent regardless of the age of the U.S. citizen child, and who is legally present and resides in the CNMI as of Nov. 27, 2011;
- A foreign national born in what is now the CNMI between Jan. 1, 1974 and Jan. 9, 1978. This group of individuals is sometimes referred to as "stateless" because of their unique situation under the Covenant Act establishing eligibility for U.S. citizenship of individuals born in the CNMI;
- A child (unmarried under 21 years old) or legal spouse of a foreign national who was born in what is now the CNMI between Jan. 1, 1974 and Jan. 9, 1978 (also known as a stateless individual).

USCIS' Thanksgiving announcement said this kind of parole will allow these individuals to maintain legal status in the CNMI until Dec. 31, 2012.

With the expiration of umbrella permits on Nov. 27, 2011, these individuals may not have another option under U.S. immigration law.

USCIS said it will soon release guidance for applying for this kind of parole, and encourages people to continue checking www.uscis.gov/cnmi for updates on the latest guidance.

# PSS: Schools' ETC, fundraising accounts well-accounted for

REPORTER

The Public School System has a well-accounted record of all schools' education tax credit donations and proceeds of all fundraising activities to ensure that monies are spent wisely and objectively by individual school principals.

PSS finance director Rich-

Rota Mayor Melchor Mendiola has expressed support for the

cargo airline project of busi-

nessman Anthony Pellegrino,

saying that Arctic Circle Air

would contribute to the growth

By CLARISSA V. DAVID

clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

ard Waldo said the system adheres to all policies in place to promote accountability in all schools.

He explained that ETC donations and fundraising money have separate accountsboth regularly monitored by the school fiscal and budget office. Pursuant to PSS policy, the school principal can request for the disbursement

# Rota mayor backs proposed cargo airline

According to Mendiola, restriction should occur when only one of the two territories has an

Mendiola also agreed with the remarks of TJ Enterprise president Frank Atalig of Rota that there should be less talk and more action to revive the agriculture industry in the CNMI.

"If we need this, we have to

Mendiola added that he is also pleased that local businesses are

of the CNMI economy. "I'm in support of Arctic Circle," Mendiola said in an interview. "This will ease the cost, providing us greater opportunity for competition."

Mendiola said the support of local farmers for Arctic Circle Air through a farmers cooperative is also vital to meet the production requirements when local produce are exported.

"I think it can really contribute not only to Rota, Saipan, and Tinian but also Guam," he

The mayor noted that quarantine requirements in the CNMI and Guam make it difficult for the two island territories to exchange goods.

agricultural problem or issue.

start doing it. Otherwise, there's no production. The emphasis there is that we have to take it upon us to act and to realize that we have to meet that goal. It takes everybody because we're talking of limiting the importation to stimulate our economy. But we have to produce. And it takes each individual to act on it," he said.

# accepting locally grown produce in support of the agriculture industry to help the island economy.

# Immunization Clinic to open for required student immunizations

Effective Nov. 23, 2011, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation's Immunization Clinic, located at the Commonwealth Health Center on Lower Navy Hill, will open five days a week, Monday to Friday, from 7:30am to 4:30pm, including lunch hours, primarily to accommodate students in need of their required immunizations for school entrance, as mandated by Public Law 6-10.

Public Law 6-10 requires all school children to be up to date with required immunizations prior to enrolling in any public or private school in the CNMI. Parents are urged to comply with this mandate and to contact

the Immunization Program for

Furthermore, parents of children who are not enrolled in school yet are also urged to make sure their children are up to date with all their immunizations and to visit the Immunization Clinic or any private clinic, including Tinian Health Center and Rota Health Center if their children are not fully immunized with their required shots. No appointment is necessary at the CHC Immunization Clinic and all vaccines are provided at no cost.

For more information, contact the Immunization Clinic at 236-8745 or 236-8708/80/81

further assistance.

# **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

# Sandy Beach Homes open house today

Sandy Beach Homes in Chalan Kanoa will hold an open house for teachers today, Nov. 26, from 8am to 12pm. Sandy Beach Homes will also participate in the Public School System's Parent Teacher Student Association Summit on Dec. 3, 2012, at Marianas High School. For more information, visit www.sandybeachhomes.net or call (670) 235-7263. (PR)

# **University Music presents 'A Family Christmas Concert'**

On Dec. 1 and 2, University Music will present A Family Christmas Concert at 7pm in the UOG Fine Arts Theater. The concert features the UOG Jazz Ensemble and the University Singers. Special guests will include Jack Skellington, Mr. Oogie Boogie, Frosty the Snowman, The Grinch, and maybe Santa Claus himself! Admission is \$7 general, \$5 student/senior or \$20 for the whole family. For more information contact Randall Johnson at 734-2713 or RandallJohnson@guam.net. (PR)

of the monies intended for his/her school from PSS to cover for immediate needs of students such as toiletries, repairs, procurement of supplies, among others.

Each school year, PSS generates about \$150,000 in total educational tax credit donations for all schools and over \$100,000 in fundraising events, Waldo said. The amount for individual school accounts varies, depending on the efforts exerted by schools in their fundraising activities.

Waldo emphasized that no single penny is being used for any other purpose other than what it is intended for schools. Due to families' tight budget and ongoing austerity measures in both the government and the private sector, Waldo said that PSS is very careful when approving fundraising events. He said activities sponsored and organized by the school's PTSA are the ones that are usually approved.

This school year, Saipan Southern High School may

have the biggest fundraiser for the London trip of its Manta Ray Band in July 2012.

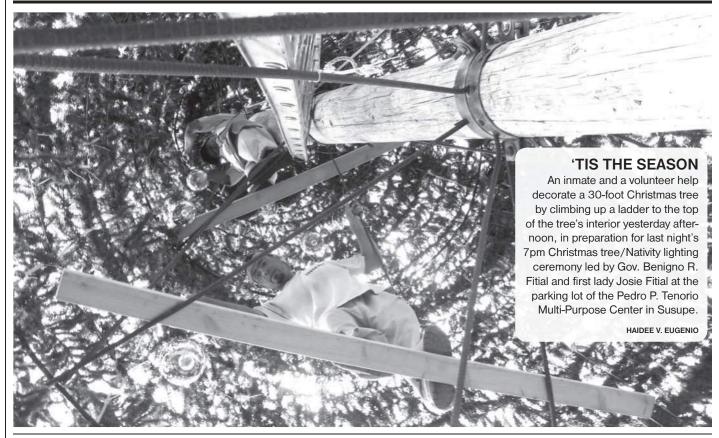
"The biggest campaign this year may be for the SSHS' Manta Band, which will raise funds for their Olympic trip next year," said Waldo.

SSHS principal Jesse Tudela told Saipan Tribune that the band has raised over \$20,000 for the trip so far. The school, which intends to bring 40 band members to the event, will need \$300,000 for the trip.

Last Wednesday, Delegate

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan told SSHS students that he will donate 200 seedlings that they in turn can sell to sponsors for \$100 per seedling. The band is also counting on the \$15,000 pledge of Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos and \$10,000 pledge of Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan.

Last week, Tudela sealed an agreement with Global Education Oriented School of Korea to hold a joint concert in July 2012. All proceeds will go directly to the local band.



# APASEEM to host 2-day scientific conference

The APASEEM 2011 Conference will be held on Nov. 29 and 30, at the American Memorial Park on Saipan, from 3:30pm to 6:30pm each day. Admission is free.

On the conference's first day, Nov. 29, Tuesday, the first talk will begin at 3:30pm. Standard talk length is projected at 20 to 25 minutes, plus five minutes afterwards for questions and answers. The topics will be:

- 1. "Japan, the Pacific Golden-Plover Crossroads." Dr. Roger Goodwill, Dr. Shane Gold, John Furey, and Andre Kozij
- 2. "Traditional Fishing on Guam": Chamoru Chenchulu

Fishermen—a 28-minute movie. Dr. Judy Amesbury, Leonard Iriarte, Ray Topasna, John Ray Aguon, and Bobby Alvarez

tics of the Spotcheek Emperor, Lethrinus rubrioperculatus, in the Northern Mariana Islands." Michael Trianni 4. "The reproductive cycle of

3. "Biological Characteris-

- Lissocarcinus orbicularis observed on North Shore, Oahu, Hawaii, with observations from Tahiti and Saipan." Kalie Johnson, Dr. Roger Goodwill, and Dr. Dave Bybee.
- 5. "Development of Junction Water Demands for the Saipan Water Distribution System

Numerical Model." Dr. Shahram Khosrowpanah, Dr. Leroy Heitz, and Mariano Iglecias.

On the second day of the

conference, Nov. 30, Wednesday, the first talk will begin at 3:30pm. Standard talk length is 20 to 25 minutes plus five minutes afterwards for questions and answers.

- 1. "PCB Status of Popular Table Fish from Northern and Central Sections of Saipan Lagoon." Dr. Gary R.W. Denton, Michael S. Trianni, and Michael C. Tenorio.
- 2. "Reproductive characteristics of the crab family Xanthidae observed on North Shore, Oahu,

Hawaii with observations from Saipan." Bobbie Hanohano and Dr. Roger Goodwill.

- 3. "Learning about Sciences and Mathematics through the Study of Aviation, a new curriculum at Marianas High School. John Raulerson and Course students.
- 4. "An Introduction to the Presently Being Developed Mariana Islands Marine National Monument Science Plan." Michael Trianni and Eric Breuer.
- 5. "The CNMI Bio-sampling Program: An experiment in Federal, CNMI Government, and private sector cooperative fisheries research." Trey Dunn and John Gourley. (PR)

# 'ATF asked for arson investigator's report on clothing store blaze'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

The report of an arson investigator who looked into the fire that broke out at a clothing store in Garapan last year has been turned over to the U.S. Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms, according to a counsel of an insurance

company. Richard W. Pierce, counsel for FirstNet Insurance Co., said the arson investigator's report was given to an ATF agent at the agent's request.

Pierce made the disclosure in FirstNet's response on Wednesday to request for production of documents and things filed by Zheng Rui Brother Corp., owner of BL Clothing Store.

Pierce said the same report was provided to Zheng Rui Brother Corp.

Zheng Rui Brother Corp., through counsel Ramon Quichocho, specifically requested FirestNet to provide any and all complaints, reports, and/or charges that Pierce submitted to, or filed, with the ATF, or with any other local or federal enforcement agency/ agencies.

On other requests, Pierce said they already produced over 700 photographs taken at the scene, the chemical analysis of samples taken, and the post-fire inventory.

Pierce said that among the items collected by their arson investigator at the scene were a candle, white plastic cap, and remains of the fire debris, which are all in Malaysia in custody of the investigator.

Pierce said the spent debris had since been discarded as any traces of ignitable liquid residues had been extracted by means of activated carbon.

The lawyer also disclosed that there is a container with petroleum residue believed to be in the custody of Fire investigator

Lt. Kevin Aldan.

The fire broke out at the BL Clothing Store on Oct. 30,

In March 2011, the fire policy insurer, FirstNet sued Zhen Rui Brother Corp., for allegedly deliberately setting off the fire so that the owner could claim \$404,718.53 in insurance proceeds.

Zhen Rui Brother Corp later filed a counterclaim against FirstNet, alleging breach of contract, breach of implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, insurance bad faith, and unfair or deceptive business practices.

6 SATURDAY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26-27, 2011 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Opinion



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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

# **EDITORIAL**

# Congress' symptomatic supercommittee never had a chance

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he Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction—the supercommittee—was a hastily thrown together Hail Mary. It never really had a chance.

Which puts it right in line with so much of what

Which puts it right in line with so much of what Congress does these days.

This group's inability to agree on a mere \$1.2 trillion in deficit reduction over 10 years was a failure of fundamentals. Instead of 12 statesmen working together to solve a problem, its members started and ended as two six-person teams motivated only by winning an argument.

If your worldview leads you to reflexively blame Democrats or Republicans, here's your chance. Be honest, though: Your feet never moved. If your view is that you're way too busy to worry about Washington, perhaps you're part of the problem, too.

The supercommittee failure was a symptom. The larger problem is the increasing intractability of the competing visions for governing America.

Sadly, this committee had a long-shot chance to do some real good through reforming our tax laws to a flatter, fairer system and, at the same time, reining in the rampant, entitlement-driven spending that threatens to swallow the federal budget whole. Instead, members talked past each other, retreated to sound bites and party caucuses to reinflate their egos and trooped back to the conference table to pound their chests about the solitary rightness of their cause.

Stop us if this sounds like the war over raising the debt ceiling or the pitched battles over budgets and stopgap spending measures to keep the government's lights turned on.

Same fights, same myopia, same absence of compromise. Meanwhile, the U.S. debt spins wildly past \$15 trillion. To contextualize the supercommittee's fecklessness, even if it had succeeded at its statutory target in deficit reduction, deficits overall still would have risen. The bleeding goes on.

And any hopes of a \$4 trillion "grand bargain," perhaps along the lines proposed nearly two years ago by President Barack Obama's debt commission? Never in the game. The Simpson-Bowles commission may go down as our last glimpse of bipartisan common sense, and even that group couldn't produce the majority sentiment needed to force Congress' hand.

The new buzz in Congress is to figure a way around the law that backstopped the supercommittee with automatic spending triggers, including deep cuts to defense and some domestic programs. These sequestration cuts, scheduled to take effect in 2013, grew out of desperation, not deliberation, but Congress would be wiser to leave them be until they have consensus support for something better.

And we know the odds of that happening.

These are who we keep electing to represent us in Washington. No matter how difficult the times, the job is beyond them. It's not beyond every American, but we're obviously not sending the right ones.

Congress is responsible for its failures. We are responsible for choosing the members incapable of getting things done.



# TGIF getting green

aw enforcement officers across the United States dread this Friday like the outbreak of some form of black plague. At least, traffic is a mess. A whole country goes into a frenzied ritual of spending paroxysm programmed by more than six decades of marketing genius that prey on native urges and human yearnings, and the facility of financial credit to afford them.

The spending ritual is part of the business cycle. The period from Thanksgiving to mid-January is about five weeks of marketing consumer goods in the western Yuletide and New Year's season. The Christian liturgical calendar has the advent to the epiphany of the Christ-child (this is an all-powerful symbolic period to those who grew up in the canopy of its imperial image power)—from the Bethlehem babe to the three kings in the manger, ingrained in many time designs.

After WWII, returning casualties from military theatres showed a high percentage of mental health cases. Psychoanalysis had then ascended the U.S. healing profession to correctional institutions as they transformed punitive procedures to rehabilitative practices. The national Mental Health Act of '46 gave credence to the new pubic relations' discipline practiced on Wall Street. A decade earlier, after the U.S. Depression hit impoverished bottom, Edward Bernays, nephew of prominent Sigmund Freud and cousin to devoted Anna, took psychological insights and applied it to the marketing methodologies.

Freud is a secular apostle of the Augustinian notion (my monkish opinion) that human genesis is on the negative side of the social equation. Augustine proposed original sin to explain his youthful behavior and adult guilt, used the Torah's story of creation as authoritative justification, and decreed every human's "fall from grace." Following Europe's optimistic period of enlightenment and the age of reason, Sigmund and daughter Anna suggested that underneath human consciousness lurks a sea of primitive chaos influencing behavior and making us all subject to animal savagery and violence.

Sigmund traced anti-Jewish Nazi Germany to primal nature; he also caught daughter Anna masturbating, and following European manners of the court that disdained sexual urges as contrary to the conduct of moral persons and upright citizens (though regally practiced under covers), he concluded that early childhood experiences and suppressed memories of them can explain deviant behavior. The regions of the subconscious and unconscious lend itself to manipulation so that it can result into desired programmed behavior. Similarly, education came along to promote the cult of self-preservation and self-esteem.

The age of consumerism is defined by widespread manipulation of primitive urges, an appeal to satisfaction, status, significance, and shame. Just say, "tak, tak, tak" in the Philippines, and one hears "Ajinomoto," the food additive that made MSG a common fare in

# By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



Pinoy cuisine. Nike shoes (think sports figures) and Polo (Ralph Lauren and Milan's glitterati) shirts prey on our sense of social status. Apple's "we will bring the library to every home" appealed to my sense of significance, patronizing its digital world products. Shame and sex, of course, remain the fertile field of exploitation, and one only stare at all the blown-out images in Galleria to track which of our salivating nature the ad folks are after! Newstands cover girlie and macho magazines that end up under many pillows.

China's rapid economic rise is from cheaply produced consumer goods. Its export markets (North America and EU) are in recession with their financial systems weighted down by phantom wealth, delusionary assurances, and illusory assets; China's manufacturing has started contracting as its savings-prone domestic market is not about to create a robust consuming horde overnight.

Sadly, China is rapidly getting highly commercialized with a widening consumer base, but Black Friday is a decade down the line. Aping Western models of consummate consumption, however, Chinese financial institutions extend easy credit to spur buying of products it over-produces for export, and heretofore, illicitly marketed in domestic stalls.

America will survive another decade of Black Fridays for as long as it drums the message of fear to its population and insecurity from terror among its allies, foists its currency as medium of exchange in global trade, spreads the culture of consumption worldwide, and flexes its imperial military muscles. Meanwhile, those duped by continuing Park Avenue marketing will line up for the latest sale of products of rapid obsolescence.

We see sunrise in the rubble of collapse. TGIF. There are green Fridays sprouting around the world. A network of *glocalis* is finding connectivity in new forms of social networking. As crude and unruly the Arab Spring and the Occupy Wall Street movements are, they foreshadow increasing eye balling communions of small groups forming around common interest, as in a green earth. That image of the earthrise overarches many visions and echoes along the tremors of mission lines. A vision of hope and a mission of profound transformation are occurring in the midst of frenzied gloom and despair.

But some will keep to their Black Friday. I am keeping mine green!

# **EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of ne reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and

getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Parole versus CW status

# IMMIGRATION FORUM

By MAYA KARA and BRUCE MAILMAN Special to the Saipan Tribune





Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

hursday's news release from USCIS titled "Parole for Immediate Relatives of U.S. Citizens and Certain Stateless Individuals" was greeted with jubilation. Many consider it as an answer to their prayers. Others see is as the result of relentless lobbying by many dedicated individuals and organizations. Still others view it as an act of administrative grace from Uncle Sam. In any case, the news was cause for celebration in many families whose fear of separation is allayed, at least for now. It made for a heartfelt thanksgiving for members and friends of the alien worker community.

Almost as soon as the news was out, we started getting questions: Does this mean I don't have to file for CW? Should I withdraw my CW? Isn't this better than CW? In today's column we will try to address these questions and to compare the two forms of status and the advantages and disadvantages of each.

# **Parole for IRs and stateless**

USCIS has now identified additional classes of aliens to whom parole in place will be available. Instructions as to how and when and where to apply for this parole are not yet available. What we do know is the following:

# 1. Who is eligible?

- Parents of U.S. citizens, regardless of the age of the U.S. citizen child and regardless of the parents' marital status;
- Legally married spouses of U.S. citizens;
- Children of U.S. citizens, so long as they are under age 21 and unmarried;
- Foreign nationals born in what is now the CNMI between Jan. 1, 1974, and Jan. 8, 1978; their legal spouses and unmarried children under the age of 21.

# 2. Underlying qualifications

Even if you fall into one of the above listed groups, you are not eligible for parole unless you are also:

- Legally present in the CNMI on Nov. 27, 2011, and
- Residing in the CNMI as of Nov. 27, 2011.

# 3. Who is not eligible?

- This type of parole will **not** be available to aliens who are not in status on Nov. 27, 2011. So, if you have an umbrella permit but no employer to file a CW for you, this parole is tailor-made for you. This parole will give you what is called "continued lawful presence;" in other words, you cannot be removed for being out of status. You can still be removed for other reasons of inadmissibility, such as certain crimes, but not for unlawful presence.
- If you were ordered deported by the CNMI authorities, or if you are currently in removal proceedings with ICE, you probably cannot benefit from this type of parole.
- If you status is uncertain, for example if your name was on the conditional umbrella permit list published by the Attorney General, or if you should have gotten an umbrella permit but it was never issued, or if you had a 240(p) permit instead of an umbrella permit, you should consult an attorney to see if filing for this type of parole makes sense for you.

# 4. What is the benefit of this parole?

■ If you meet the qualifications, you can remain in the CNMI after Nov. 27, 2011, without fear of removal. Of course you must apply for the parole and the parole must be granted to you. Do remember that there is no right to a parole, only eligibility. Paroles are granted under the discretionary authority of USCIS; they are decided on a case-by-case basis. There are no guarantees.

# 5. How long is this parole good for?

- At this time, we are told that these paroles will be issued for a period of a little over one year, or until Dec. 31, 2012.
- We do not know whether this parole will be renewable. It is like-

ly that if Kilili's HR 1466 becomes law, this parole will no longer be available. Kilili's proposed bill and this parole appear to offer protection to most of same people. If Kilili's bill becomes law, this parole will no longer be needed except for parents of children born after May 8, 2008.

### 6. What about work authorization?

- This parole gives you temporary status only; it does not include work authorization. Once the parole is granted, then you can apply for an Employment Authorization Document, or EAD, by filing Form I-765 and paying a filing fee of \$380 to U.S. Department of Homeland Security. You can download the form from http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis; go to click the Forms tab, and scroll down to I-765.
- If you have no work authorization, you cannot work from Nov. 28 through whenever you receive your EAD. This could easily be a period of three to four months or more.
- Remember, working illegally, that is, without a work authorization or a pending CW-1, can have serious consequences for both the worker and the employer. The employer can be fined and barred from further employment of aliens. The worker may become inadmissible to the United States. In other words, he or she might find it very difficult to obtain any U.S. immigration benefit in the future.

# CW and parole compared

Many people have the idea that they can pick and choose whether to apply for parole or for CW. This is incorrect. If you are legally employed, it is unlikely that you will be granted a parole, even if you qualify. USCIS views parole as a solution of last resort; if you qualify for CW, USCIS will take the view that you should have gotten one. This of course is not absolute, and there are always individual extenuating circumstances that might get you a grant of parole.

Also, you cannot go back and forth between CW and parole. Although you may be able to move from parole to CW, you likely cannot go back to parole status. USCIS considers someone who is granted CW status to have been admitted to the U.S., whereas a person on parole has not been admitted. Once you are admitted to the U.S. you are lawfully inside the U.S., and not eligible for parole. So if both options are in fact open to you, you will have to make a choice.

The primary advantage of CW status is that you can continue *marianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written working without interruption. If your employer files a CW appli-*

cation for you, postmarked on or before Nov. 28, both your status and your work authorization will continue uninterrupted until your petition is adjudicated. If you file for parole, you will not be able to work for three to four months, possibly more. Another advantage of CW status is relative certainty. If your employer is a legitimate employer, and you are not qualified for another non-immigrant visa (such as an H-1B), and your employer made a good faith effort to hire a U.S. worker, your application for CW is likely to be approved.

Application for a parole is always a gamble; there is no assurance of a decision in your favor, the application is adjudicated on a case-by-case basis, and the decision depends on the discretion of the adjudicator. And there is another uncertainty: this particular parole is good through Dec. 31, 2012, but there is no guarantee that it will be renewed or extended.

This is not to discourage folks whose only option to remain is the CNMI is through this newly announced parole for IRs of U.S. citizens and the stateless born in the CNMI between Jan. 1, 1974, and Jan. 9, 1978. The new parole is great news for unemployed aliens who are parents of U.S. citizen children as well as parents of children born in the CNMI after May 8, 2008. We suspect this is the largest group that the new policy will benefit. The second largest group is likely to be legal spouses of U.S. citizens who do not yet have the economic means to file for permanent resident status. The third largest group, of course, is the "stateless" who have, until now, fallen in the cracks of every prior enactment. To all of these people, the new policy is a great boon and will help to lessen the fear and insecurity that has reigned in the CNMI over the past several years.

We have on several occasions applauded the flexibility USCIS has shown in its handling of the ongoing transition from CNMI to U.S. immigration law. It's time to do that again: this was a real Thanksgiving gift.

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to lexmarianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at editor@saipantribune.com.

# Giving bullies a veto on the First Amendment

By GLENN GARVIN

magine five Jewish kids go to school one day wearing their yarmulkes. The school's numerous skinhead students are furious. At lunch they mill around in the school yard, muttering threats and complaining to the assistant principal that that their political beliefs have been insulted. The assistant principal responds by calling the Jewish kids into his office and ordering them to take off their yarmulkes or go home.

Then imagine further that when the kids go to court to get help, the judge replies: Sorry, fellows, you've misunderstood the concept of free speech. It only lasts until a fascist bully threatens to punch you in the nose. After that, we're on his side, not yours.

The head of every First Amendment lawyer in America explodes, right? Editorial boards at *The New York Times* and *Washington Post* are struck down with collective strokes, right? Political progressives all over the country pour into the streets demanding that Obamacare be expanded to provide free backbone transplants for judges, right?

Wrong, wrong and wrong, at least if you replace "yarmulke" with "American flag." When a federal judge in San Francisco ruled earlier this month that school administrators in a California town had the right to kick out kids for wearing American flag T-shirts because they were offending Mexican-American students, the silence among First Amendment activists and the media was deafening.

This sad story of multiculturalism run amok begins in Morgan Hill, Calif., a small town south of San Jose previously notorious only for its hellishly efficient speed traps, during last year's Cinco de Mayo celebration. (Cinco de Mayo, May 5, is the anniversary of an 1862 battle between the Mexican and French armies; curiously, it isn't celebrated in Mexico at all.)

At Morgan Hill's Live Oak High School, scores of the many Mexican-American students wore the red, green and white colors of the Mexican flag. But five kids came in American-flag T-shirts. As the five sat at a table outside during a morning break in classes, assistant principal Miguel Rodriguez summoned them into the school office.

The Mexican-American students were angry about the American

flags, Rodriguez warned the five, and they had to either turn their T-shirts inside-out or go home for the day. "They said we were starting a fight, we were fuel to the fire," sophomore Matt Dariano told the Gilroy Dispatch.

In federal court testimony later, Rodriguez admitted that the five boys weren't doing anything wrong. But he had been warned that Mexican-American students were unhappy. And he recalled that on Cinco de Mayo the year before, Mexican-American students had threatened violence when somebody raised an American flag.

The five boys went home. But three of them later sued Rodriguez, another administrator and the school district, saying they had been deprived of their freedom of expression and right to due process and equal protection under the law.

Hogwash, ruled federal district court judge James Ware.

By making the bullies angry, the boys "could cause a substantial disruption with school activities," which gave administrators the legal right to kick them out, the judge said. And in a truly Orwellian twist, he added that there was no need to eject students wearing the colors of the Mexican flag because nobody had threatened to beat them up.

Ignorant layman that I am, I would have guessed that the whole point of the First and Fourteenth amendments was precisely the opposite — that they exist to protect the rights of tiny, peaceful minorities rather than angry mobs. But Eugene Volokh, a UCLA law professor whose conservative blog The Volokh Conspiracy is among the few media outlets following the Morgan Hill case, says the judge is probably correct under a 1969 Supreme Court ruling that allows schools to restrict speech that would "materially and substantially interfere with the requirements of appropriate discipline."

So I guess I've learned something about the law. And about multiculturalism: that it sees American democracy as an enemy that must be beaten into submission. And the public schools: that they've declined to the point where they are unwilling or unable to protect the physical safety of a kid whose only offense is an affection for red, white and blue.

Glenn Garvin is a columnist for the Miami Herald, 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, Fla. 33132. Readers may write to him via email at ggarvin@ miamiherald.com.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

# 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼76°

Palau

Yap

Chuuk

Pohnpei

Kosrae

Majuro

Auckland

Hong Kong

Los Angeles

Melbourne

New York

Honolulu

London

Manila

Miami

Osaka

Paris

Pusan

Rome

Salem

Seoul

Tokyo

Beijing

**Micronesia** Guam and Rota Thunderstorms ▲85 ▼79

Showers

**Showers** 

Showers

Showers

Showers

**Around The Globe** 

Cloudy

Partly Cloudy

Sunny

Partly Cloudy

Showers

Sunny

Rain

Partly Cloudy

Partly Cloudy

Cloudy

Cloudy

Partly Cloudy

Sunny

Showers

Showers

Mostly Cloudy ▲62 ▼47

San Francisco Mostly Sunny ▲69 ▼53

Washington, DC Mostly Sunny ▲62 ▼51

Thundershowers ▲88 ▼76

Thunderstorms ▲87 ▼76



Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.

**▲** 86° ▼ 76°

**▲**88 ▼77

**▲**87 **▼**76

**▲**86 ▼75

**▲**86 **▼**75

**▲84** ▼80

**▲**66 ▼58

**▲**53 **▼**27

**▲**78 ▼70

**▲**82 **▼**72

**▲**54 ▼39

**▲** 74 ▼49

**▲**73 ▼55 **▲**80 ▼69

**▲**61 **▼**45

**▲63 ▼47** 

**▲**51 **▼**40

**▲**66 ▼51

**▲**65 **▼**43

**▲**58 ▼50

**▲**60 ▼45



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

**▲86° ▼76°** 



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

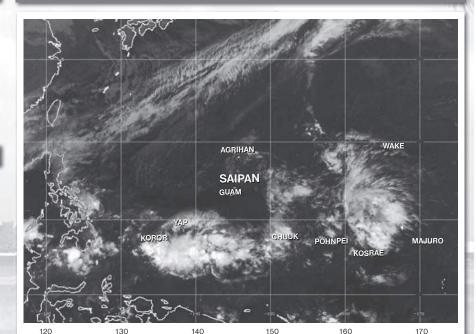
**▲** 86° ▼ 76°

isolated showers.

**▲86° ▼76°** 

Mostly cloudy with

# Yesterday's Satellite Image



# PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2011

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough extends eastward across 3N130E to near Chuuk at 9N152E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found in an area between 4N and 8N from 133E to 147E extending from Koror to well southeast of Yap and near Chuuk between 6N and 9N from 149E to 152E. An upper-level low centered near 18N157E is triggering scattered showers far east of Guam within 75 miles of a line from 12N151E to 14N155E and southwest of Wake Island within 75 miles of a line from 18N158E to 16N159E. A trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of Kosrae and just west of Kwajalein between 6N and 13N from 160E to 167E.

	T	ides	
Saipan Ha	arbor		
1:59 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
9:02 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
2:24 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
7:17 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sun	rise/Suns	et
Today	6:23 AM	5:44 PM
Sunday	6:24 AM	5:44 PM
Monday	6:25 AM	5:44 PM
Tuesday	6:26 AM	5:44 PM
Wednesday	6:26 AM	5.44 PM

Moon	rise/Moon	set
Today	7:07 AM	6:43 PM
Sunday	8:09 AM	7:45 PM
Monday	9:05 AM	8:45 PM
Tuesday	9:56 AM	9:43 PM
Wednesday	10:42 AM	10:36 PM

# GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The Saipan Tribune accepts for FREE publication the

### **PICTURES** ■ ISLAND SNAPSHOTS

- Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones,
- accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday. Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, grant-
- ing of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community. ■ SAMU'T SARI
- Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc. **■ TRÁVELOGUE**
- Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration

**NMI CRIME** 

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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the name of contact person, and a phone number ■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or
- jayvee\_vallejera@saipantribune.com Fax: (670) 235-3740

Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

■ Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950 ■ Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center

To check if contributions are 6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone ■ \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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# FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 17, 2011

DE	PAR	TUR	ES		ARF	RIVAL	.5
GUAM (GUM	i)-ROTA (	(ROP)		ROTA (ROP)	-GUAM (	GUM)	
C05062	2:10am	2:40am	1, 5	C05064	5:15am	5:45am	1, 5
SAIPAN (SP	N)-ROTA	(ROP)		ROTA (ROP)	-SAIPAN	(SPN)	
C05064		4:50am	1, 5	C05062		3:45am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GU/				GUAM (GUM			
C05070		5:45am	1, 5 via ROP	C05062		3:45am	1, 5 via ROP
C05070		5:25am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	C05069		3:35am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
C05068		9:15am	Daily	C05071		7:50am	Daily
C05074	,	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C05073		10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05076	,	4:00pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C05075	,	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C05078	,	7:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C05077	,	6:20pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05078	,	7:50pm	3, 6	C05077	,	6:30pm	3, 6
C05072	,	10:45pm		C05079	,	9:25pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05072	10:05pm	10:55pm	3, 6	C05079	8:45pm	9:35pm	3, 6
SAIPAN-NAI	RITA (NR	T)		NARITA (NR	T)-SAIPA	N	
DL287		8:35am	Daily	DL298		3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288		1:15am+1	Daily
CAIDAN CEC	MII /IAM			CEOUL (ION	CAIDAN		
<b>SAIPAN-SEO</b> 07606		6:00am	1	SEOUL (ICN) 07603			Dailu
			1	12111		2:20pm	Daily
0Z606 0Z604		6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z605	,	1:00am+1 1:30am+1	
02004	3.ZUPIII	7:10pm	Daily	0Z605	0.10µ111	I.3UdIII+I	1, 2, 3, 4, 5,
SAIPAN-BUS	SAN (PUS	5)		BUSAN (PUS	S)-SAIPA	N	
0Z608	3:35am	7:05am	4, 7	0Z607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-GU	AN7HAII	(CAN)		GUANZHOU	(CAN)-C	AIDAN	
3U8646		7:30am	2, 6	3U8645		3:00am+1	1 5
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SAIPAN-SH <i>i</i>				SHANGHAI (			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-MA	NII A (MK	II)		MANILA (MN	II )-SAIP	ΔN	
0Z606/701		11:15am	1 via ICN	0Z704/603	12:10am		Daily via IC
0Z606/701		11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	DL172/288		1:15am+1	Daily via NF
02000,.0.	2		via ICN	C0190/5077	10:55am		3, 6 via GUN
C05070/191	4:35am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	C0190/5079	10:55am	,	3, 6 via GUI
DL287/173		10:25pm	Daily via NRT	0Z702/605		1:00am+1	7 via ICN
C05068/183		9:25pm	2, 5 via GUM	0Z702/605	,	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5,
C05068/183		9:40pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7	02102/000	ız. ropin		via ICN
000000/100	U.LJuili	7.40piii	via GUM	PR110/C05071	10·15nm	7·5∩am+1	1, 3, 5, 6
	2:10nm	9:25pm	2, 5 via GUM	1 1110/003011	io.iopiii	1.500111-1	via GUM
rn5n76/183		,		C0192/5071	10:25nm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via
C05076/183	,	Q∙//∩nm		UUI/L/JUII	IU.LJUIII	1.500111.1	L, J viu
C05076/183 C05076/183	3:10pm	9:40pm	1, 4, 7 via GUM		,		CIIM-Palau
C05076/183	3:10pm	,	via GUM	C0184/5071	,	7:50:2m+1	GUM-Palau
C05076/183	3:10pm	9:40pm 11:00pm	via GUM 2, 5 via	C0184/5071	,	7:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
C05076/183 C05076/193	3:10pm 3:10pm	11:00pm	via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau		11:10pm		1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
C05076/183 C05076/193 C05072/PR111	3:10pm 3:10pm 9:55pm	11:00pm 7:50am	via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau 1, 5 via GUM	C0184/5071	11:10pm	7:50am+1 7:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
C05076/183 C05076/193 C05072/PR111	3:10pm 3:10pm 9:55pm	11:00pm 7:50am	via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau		11:10pm		1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
C05076/183 C05076/193 C05072/PR111 C05072/PR111	3:10pm 3:10pm 9:55pm 10:05pm	11:00pm 7:50am 7:50am	via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau 1, 5 via GUM		11:10pm 11:59pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
C05076/183 C05076/193	3:10pm 3:10pm 9:55pm 10:05pm	11:00pm 7:50am 7:50am	via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau 1, 5 via GUM	C0184/5071	11:10pm 11:59pm	7:50am+1 <b>Saipan</b>	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUN Daily via IC
C05076/183 C05076/193 C05072/PR111 C05072/PR111 SAIPAN-HOI 0Z606/721	3:10pm 3:10pm 9:55pm 10:05pm <b>NG KONG</b> 2:10am	11:00pm 7:50am 7:50am	via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau 1, 5 via GUM 3, 6 via GUM	C0184/5071  HONG KONG	11:10pm 11:59pm ( <b>HKG</b> )-: 12:30am	7:50am+1 <b>Saipan</b>	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUN
C05076/183 C05076/193 C05072/PR111 C05072/PR111	3:10pm 3:10pm 9:55pm 10:05pm <b>NG KONG</b> 2:10am	11:00pm 7:50am 7:50am ( <b>HKG</b> ) 12:00pm	via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau 1, 5 via GUM 3, 6 via GUM	C0184/5071  HONG KONG 02724/603	11:10pm 11:59pm ( <b>HKG)-</b> : 12:30am 1:15pm	7:50am+1 <b>SAIPAN</b> 2:20pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUI Daily via IC
C05076/183 C05076/193 C05072/PR111 C05072/PR111 SAIPAN-HOI 0Z606/721	3:10pm 3:10pm 9:55pm 10:05pm <b>NG KONG</b> 2:10am 2:40am	11:00pm 7:50am 7:50am ( <b>HKG</b> ) 12:00pm	via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau 1, 5 via GUM 3, 6 via GUM 1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	C0184/5071 <b>HONG KONG</b> 0Z724/603 0Z722/605	11:10pm 11:59pm ( <b>HKG)-</b> : 12:30am 1:15pm	7:50am+1 <b>SAIPAN</b> 2:20pm 1:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUI Daily via IC 7 via ICN

and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines: OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

# FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA F	requency	Airline	ETD	ETA	requency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily	THE IEU	10.00	10.10	Duny
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota	10.20	10.10	Dully	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam			,	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily				
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

SAIPAN TRIBUNE SATURDAY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26-27, 2011 **9** 

## SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

## CATHOLIC 🗁

### **Mt. Carmel Cathedral**

Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro Parish office hours: Monday-Saturday 8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

### **Korean Center**

Sunday: 10:30am Wednesday: 10am Thursday-Friday: 8pm Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

### Kristo Rai Parish

Sunday- Saturday: 6am Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm)

Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated)
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm
Tagalog mass

Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm.

Telephone no. 285-0273

Monday: 6pm

### **Santa Soledad Mission Parish**

Tuesday: 6pm
Wednesday: 6pm
Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass)
Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass)
Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am,
Saturday: 4-6pm
Telephone no. 256-4568

### **Saint Jude Parish**

Monday- Friday: 6pm Saturday: 7am Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm Office is close every Thursday and Saturday Telephone no. 288-0007

# San Antonio Parish

Monday-Friday 6pm Saturday: 6pm Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children) Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm Close on Sunday and Monday

# San Francisco de Borja-Rota

Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English Monday and Tuesday:6am Chamorro Wednesday:6pm English Thursday: 6am Chamorro Friday: 6am English Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog Sunday: anticipated mass

# San Isidro-Rota

Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am Monday-Friday: 7pm Saturday: 5am and 7pm

# San Jose (Oleai) Parish

Monday- Saturday: 6am daily mass Monday- Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday

Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass

Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-

12pm, 2-5pm
Thursday: day off
Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm

Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm Telephone no. 234-6991

# San Roque Parish

Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English Monday: 6pm English Tuesday: 6pm English Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil Thursday: 6pm English Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays) Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English- anticipated mass Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912, Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext.143

### **San Vicente Parish**

Monday-Friday: 6pm,
Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every month)
Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm
Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm
Parish office hours: daily 9-11am
Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131

### **Santa Remedios**

Sunday: 8am
Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm)
Tuesday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm

Parish office hours: Monday- Friday: 8:30am-12pm

### 

### Amen Church

Sunday: 10am, 1pm, 5pm Wednesday: 7pm Friday Prayer: 9pm Bible Study: 4pm (Tue) Music Practice: 5pm (Sat) Korean class: 3:30pm (Thu) Visitation: 10am(Fri, Sat) Outreach: 8am (First Sat) Tel. No. 285-2121, 256-2221 Email: oseyo@daum.net

### **Born Again Christian**

(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am Sunday School for Children: 10-11am Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

# Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan

Sunday School: 9am Sunday Morning Worship: 10am Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm Telephone no. 234-6026/27

# Chinese Christian Church of Saipan

Worship Services: Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday 8pm Telephone no. 235-8540

### Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan

Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am
Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm
Children Sunday School, 10:00am/
6:00 pm
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm
Youth Night of Worship, Friday,
6:30 pm
As Perdido Road

# Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan

Chalan Piao, Saipan MP 96950

Fmail: cornerstone@cfemcares.org

Tel. No. (670) 235-8590

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am Place: Garapan, Plumeria Road, Call 285-6081 for directions

### Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan

Sunday Worship Service: 9-11am
Sunday school/ Children's church
9am (nursery available during Sunday
service)
GBI Classes: 4-6om

Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday San Antonio Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through

out the week) Telephone no. 322-5680

# Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan

Wednesday: 7:45pm (English) Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm

(Tagalog)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am
(English)

### Immanuel United Methodist Church

Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa
(east of Town Center and Beach Road,
Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)
Worship Service: 9:00am
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am
Choir Practice: 8:00am
Singspiration: 8:30am
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday
7:00pm
Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

# Immanuel Methodist Church

(Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice
(Church)

Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage) (Korean Congregation) Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm Wednesday evening service: 8pm

# Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan

Daily morning prayer: 5am

Sunday English Service: 7:30-9am, Sunday Tagalog Service: 9-11am and 6-8pm, Wednesday: 7:30-9pm

### Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan

Sunday School: 9:20am Sunday Adult: 11am Sunday Evening: 7:30pm Wednesday: 8pm

# Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan

Sunday Worship Service: 10am-12noon Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm

Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

### Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan

English Worship Service: 9-10:30am Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm English Sunday School: 11am-12pm Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: English, 7pm-8pm Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

# **Missions Connection Ministry**

Every Sunday Celebrations: 10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog) Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm Youth Impact Friday: 7pm Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

### Northern Marianas Christian Church

Sunday Worship Service: 10 am at Seventh Day Adventist church on Quartermaster Rd. Wednesday Service: 7 pm at Fina Sisu Housing FS#1

### Marianas Bible Fellowship Center

Sunday School: 9-9:30am Divine Worship: 9:30-11am Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

# Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch)

Sunday worship 8:30am Sunday evening 7:00pm Prayer meeting, every Wednesday 7:30pm San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel Telephone: 789-7566

# Saipan Christian Church

Sunday: 7:30am-10am

Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting) Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

### **Saipan Church of Christ**

Sunday Bible Class: 9am Sunday Worship: 10am Sunday Worship English: 10-11am Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

### **Saipan Community Church**

(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

# Seventh-Day Adventist Church,

(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

### First Baptist Church Koblerville

Sunday services: Sunday school 9:00am Morning worship 10:00am Evening service 6:00pm Wednesday evening bible study 7:00pm

Chinese services Sunday morning 10:00am Sunday evening 7:00pm

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. Telephone No: 285-4661/2

# Thy Word Ministries Saipan

Faith Center

Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church
Service
located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the
Sablan building on the 2nd floor above
Subway Sandwiches.

Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi

Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

### Upper Room International Ministries

Sunday 5:30am-6:30am

Morning prayer

7am-9am English service

7am-9am Sunday school

10am-12noon English service,
Koblerville

Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

# Victory Chapel Christian

Fellowship Church Sunday School: 9:30am Sunday AM Worship:10:30am Sunday PM Worship:7:00am Wed Worship: 7:30pm Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Time: Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

# **Victorious Christian Church**

(Formerly God's Victorious Army) Sunday 8:30am to 10:30am - Worship Service Monday 7:00 pm - Women's Fellowship

Tuesday nights - Home cellgroup Wednesday - 7:30pm to 9:00pm Mid Week Service Friday 7:30pm to 9:00pm Prayer

Meeting Saturday nights - Praise and worship practice

Last Friday of the month - Overnight praying meeting

Pastor Brendon Perez - Tel# 2359246

# A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 28, 2000

# Illegally occupied public lands may be assessed

The House of Representatives cleared two measures yesterday involving administration of public lands, including proposing fees for encroachment by private entities. HB 12-105, offered by Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho, will require the Division of Public Lands to identify as well as to assess fees for all public lands which are being used by private individuals or establishments without any lease agreement. According to the House Committee on Natural Resources, there is a need to establish a specific framework to generate income from unauthorized use of public lands. While DPL has carried out steps to address this problem, the absence of legislation does not compel the agency to resolve the issue with urgency, the committee said in its report.

### **BOE** nixes plan to relocate proposed high school

The State Board of Education will push through with original plans to construct the proposed Kagman High School on a 3.9-hectare land reserved for the school project despite clamors to build the campus on a larger piece of property. BOE Vice Chair Roman Benavente said yesterday the board had to pass on a House Committee on Education offer to relocate the public high school's construction site to an agricultural land due to an ongoing mitigation project around the proposed area. "Not only will the construction disrupt the flow of the existing projects being handled by the Dept. of Lands and Natural Resources and the Army Corps of Engineers, but it will also create some setbacks for the contractors," said Mr. Benavente.

# Nov. 28, 2001

### **Benavente: Nurture existing industries**

The Commonwealth should nurture its existing industries—garment manufacturing and tourism—by continuously blocking any federal takeover attempt, which is believed disastrous to the local business community. Lt. Gov.-elect Diego T. Benavente made this statement as he reiterated the incoming administration's opposition to a federal takeover of local immigration and minimum wage controls. The garment industry accounts for over \$20 million in annual government revenue generated through taxes. The 34 garment factories on Saipan provide more than 15,000 jobs in the Commonwealth, aside from the industry's multiplier effect on the economy. "Changing and federalizing immigration control here would not help us economically," Benavente said.

# FDA warns vs dietary supplement

The US Food and Drug Administration is warning consumers immediately to stop the use of the product Lipokinetix, marketed as a dietary supplement by Syntrax Innovations, Inc. Lipokinetix has been implicated in a number of serious liver injuries. The FDA has received multiple reports of persons who developed liver injury or liver failure while using Lipokinetix. Lipokinetix is marketed for weight loss. It contains the ingredients norephedrine (also known as phenylpropanolamine or PPA), caffeine, yohimbine, diiodothyronine, and sodium usniate.

# Nov. 28, 2002

# Saipan mayor receives DOJ grant

Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela yesterday announced that his office has been awarded a grant by the U.S. Department of Justice to host a regional terrorism seminar that will be participated in by all Guam and CNMI mayors. The Mayoral Seminar on Weapons of Mass Destruction and Terrorism Incident Preparedness will be held on Saipan on December 6. The event will gather 11 mayors from Guam and the Commonwealth's four municipal chief executives. The seminar seeks to provide the mayors with strategies and executive level issues and challenges relating to weapons of mass destruction and terrorism incident preparedness, as well as to share proven strategies and policies.

# Senate backs plan to borrow

The Senate yesterday wrapped its Christmas present to Commonwealth taxpayers by echoing the lower House's support for the administration's bid to borrow \$19 million to pay overdue refunds and rebates. All nine senators backed the House Resolution endorsing the \$19 million loan, after being appeased over concerns raised regarding the move's constitutionality. Pam Brown, counsel to the Governor, assured that the move is legally sound and consistent with separate opinions reached by the legal counsels of the House, Senate, Governor's Office and the Attorney General's Office.

Editor's Note: Information subject to change without prior notice. All information provided by the respective churches. If you want your church or religious activities included or to report changes and errors, call *Saipan Tribune* at 235-6397 or 235-2440 or email editor@saipantribune.com.

# Maharlika

### MANILA, Philippines—

While many continue to seek greener pastures abroad, some overseas Filipino workers are going against the tide to take up job offers at home.

One such OFW is Malaysiabased computer whiz Arlene Teodoro who packed his bags and flew home to the Philippines this year.

Forced to leave his family and friends in 2008 in search of a decent job overseas, the 35-yearold bachelor is back for good because his skills are suddenly in big demand amid a business process outsourcing boom.

"Nothing compares to being back in the Philippines," said Teodoro, who was part of a 30-strong computer science class at a Manila university in the early 1990s, most of whose members also went overseas to find work.

"When I was working abroad, I'd use up all my vacation leaves to attend family events and reconnect with my family," he said.

Teodoro now earns about P130,000 a month as a business intelligence analyst for a U.S. data mining firm, which uses powerful software to predict such key measures as future sales and trends for clients.

# OFWs head home for high paying jobs

Big multinationals from aircraft manufacturers to retail chains are increasingly using these sophisticated tools, and the Philippines and India offer the most cost-efficient locales for such labor-intensive tasks, he said

The main advantage of the two countries is their large English-speaking populations.

Data mining is just a small part of the outsourcing phenomenon in the Philippines that has emerged from virtually nothing 10 years ago to become one of the country's most important economic planks and sources of jobs.

The Philippines has for decades suffered an exodus of people who have headed overseas to escape dire economic conditions, with one quarter of the population currently living on a dollar a day or less.

Nine million, or 10 percent of all Filipinos, now live overseas, performing low-skilled jobs such as maids and sailors, but also working as nurses, engineers and IT specialists.

# **Modern-day heroes**

OFWs sent \$18.17 billion back

to the Philippines last year, equivalent to 10 percent of the country's gross domestic product, and their importance to the nation is such that they have earned the nickname: "mga bagong bayani," or "modernday heroes."

The exodus, however, has also led to a massive brain drain and caused social disruption as families are torn apart, with one or both parents going overseas and leaving their children at home with relatives.

But now the rise of outsourcing is giving many Filipinos a chance to stay home.

The outsourcing workforce grew about 10 percent this year to 600,000, and is expected to expand to 900,000 employees by 2016, according to the Business Processing Association of the Philippines.

More than 60 percent of the outsourcing jobs are in call centers with Filipinos fielding telephone inquiries from or selling products to customers across the globe.

### P20,000 a month

Although these employees are the lowest-paid in the sector, an entry-level call center job still pays between P14,000-P20,000 a month.

This is roughly equivalent to what a Filipino maid would typically earn in a wealthier Asian country such as Singapore, or a seaman's starting salary in the global merchant fleet.

The local outsourcing industry is also increasingly attracting work for higher-paying skills such as data warehousing, accounting and medical transcription, as well as creative work ranging from webpage design to animation and video games.

"Before, it was the call center boom in the Philippines, but now it's more of really specialized skills," Teodoro said.

The Philippines has risen to have the second biggest outsourcing sector in the world behind India partly because it has a huge English-language workforce.

Filipino workers are also particularly prized in the United States and other Western nations because of their familiarity with their culture, a legacy of the Philippines' history as a former U.S. colony.

# A pleasant experience

"We have had expats telling us that working with Filipino teams is a very pleasantly unique experience, which they have not had elsewhere in the world." said Gillian Joyce Virata, a senior executive director of the industry association.

The government has also sought to amplify the country's natural advantages by offering significant tax breaks for outsourcing firms and easing labor laws, such as one that used to bar women from working past midnight.

The industry association said outsourcing would generate revenues of \$11 billion this year, up from \$8.9 billion in 2010, and continue to grow by at least 15 percent annually to hit \$20 billion by 2016.

This would place the outsourcing industry's revenues almost on a level with the money sent home by overseas workers.

### 'A very big support'

"This industry has provided a very big support to the economic environment of the Philippines in the past decade," Trade Secretary Gregory Domingo told an outsourcing forum recently.

Apart from the direct benefits of employing people, Domingo credited the industry with a wide range of other knock-on effects such as increased car sales and the explosion of 24-hour convenience stores.

Outsourcing has also begun to transform Metro Manila's skyline, with skyscrapers rising to cater to big foreign banks and technology companies that have set up shop with workforces that run into the tens of thousands.

"The contribution of this industry cannot be overstated," Domingo said. (Agence France-Presse)

# Various cultural groups to perform for 'Showtime 2011'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID

REPORTER

All is set for tonight's "Showtime 2011: A spectacular show for a cause" starting at 7pm at the American Memorial Park Amphitheater.

Sharmaine Casquero of the event organizer Saipan Divas said that the public will be in for a treat as different cultural groups will perform their song or dance numbers during the show.

Tickets for the show cost \$5

"Our audience can look forward to big production numbers from all performers," Casquero told Saipan Tribune. "It will be a showdown of songs, hip-hop and cultural dances, and other performances that we worked hard for to give the community a great show."

Casquero said there will be performances from the Bangladesh Association, Thai and Chinese groups, and different dance groups such as the SDC Dancers and the Rock-a-bit Dancers.

According to Casquero, there will be production numbers from gays from Saipan and Tinian who will do impersonations of famous celebrities like Beyonce, Madonna, and Lady Gaga.

Casquero disclosed that their ticket sales are doing okay and many have expressed their support for the event which aims to raise funds for the seven individuals who have filed a lawsuit that seeks to suspend the implementation of the CNMI-only Transitional Worker final rule.

"This is not just an effort of one group but by many groups and individuals who have teamed up and give everyone a fun show," said Casquero.

Casquero encouraged foreign workers and the rest of the community to support their cause and enjoy the event.

"We invite everyone to watch the show and witness the unity of the foreign workers in the CNMI," said Casquero.

For more information, call 888-2579 or 233-2643.

38 graduate from air-conditioning, refrigeration course By CLARISSA V. DAVID

Prompted by a desire to learn more about air-conditioning, Evelyn Lapuz decided to enroll in the Domestic Refrigeration and Aircon Mechanic course offered by the Philippine Consulate General through the Philippine Overseas Labor Office.

"It would mean additional skills for me," said Lapuz, who works as an underwriting and claims supervisor at Century Insurance Co., Ltd. "Besides, the class was offered on weekends and I have free time so I wanted to learn."

Lapuz was among the 38 graduates of the second batch of the course, which has seen a dramatic increase in demand among female Filipinos on Saipan.

From having only two female graduates out of the 54 members or 4 percent of the first batch, the number rose to eight female graduates or 21 percent of the second batch.

"I'm very pleased that we have from this batch more female graduates who are very eager and determined to learn these skills. Their participation in the class was very significant," course instructor James R. Abuy of Pacific Islands Club told Saipan Tribune.

The class, which began on Nov. 5, had its graduation ceremony on the day they took up the business management component of the class from Jun D. Bañadera Jr. or on Nov. 19.

The ceremony held at the Fil-



Graduates of Domestic Refrigeration and Aircon Mechanic Batch 2 flank instructors James R. Abuy, Jun D. Banadera Jr., labor representative Carmelina F. Velasquez, and welfare officer Julia F. Fabian after the ceremony at the Filipino Workers Resource Center on Nov. 19

ipino Workers Resource Center was followed by a festive celebration and get-together at the Kilili Beach Pavilion along Beach Road.

Lapuz, having received her certificate of completion, is bursting with pride. "I've already learned the basic skills like how to clean and maintain my own air-con units. I feel like I can do anything because I've learned a skill that's learned mostly by men. It's easy if you have the resolve to learn and be

Another female graduate, Anna S. De Guzman, couldn't agree more, now that she knows the difference between a condenser and an evaporator.

"My aircon broke down recently and I was the one who checked to see what was wrong with it and save money in the process. I really learned a lot," said De Guzman, who has taken almost every course offered by POLO.

Abuy, a master electrician licensed by the Professional Regulation Commission of the Philippines, disclosed that not all of the graduates were green in this field. "Actually, there were technicians among the group and they shared the knowledge they have with the rest of the class."

Abuy said the class, which was divided into five groups, demonstrated cooperation and teamwork as they themselves brought tools to supplement their lectures and facilitate a better understanding of the lessons.

"I hope their learning doesn't end here," noted Abuy. "Application of their new skills is key. They have to apply what they learned and explore some more."

Abuy said his dream for both batches is to see them all get U.S. certifications. Three of his former students, he said, recently passed the certification from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

"We've been talking about it a lot. I encourage them to take the test and the two classes have plans to merge for their review and I'm willing to assist and support them the best that I can," he said.

The Domestic Refrigeration and Aircon Mechanic is one of the three courses offered by the Consulate through POLO for the fourth quarter of 2011.

The Basic Computer Operations I – Batch 54, which held its graduation ceremony on Nov. 20, had 21 graduates, seven of whom are females.

The Fruit and Vegetable

Carving – Batch 3, meanwhile, had 43 graduates, 37 of whom are females. Their graduation ceremony was on Oct. 22.

Labor representative Carmelina F. Velasquez said she wants to see the graduates "translate into action" whatever skills they gained.

"Initially, it's just for domestic use and application. But hopefully and eventually, they are able to put up their own business in the Philippines in line with the livelihood courses they have learned," she said.

Having their own businesses, Velasquez said, will have a "multiplier effect."

"We want to encourage them to have their businesses in the Philippines to create jobs and help in addressing the unemployment problem in our country," she added.

# Arroyo's health improving, asks for house arrest

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— Former Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, who tried to leave the country on medical grounds while the government scrambled to file charges against her, is well enough to leave the hospital where she was arrested last week, she and her doctors agree.

Arroyo lawyer Jose Flaminiano told a court Friday he was withdrawing his motion for a hospital arrest in favor of house arrest. Earlier, he had resisted efforts to have doctors testify about Arroyo's condition.

Arroyo is "fit to be released as outpatient," her physician Dr. Mario Ver testified Friday.

Arroyo has had three surgeries on her cervical spine, and she argued before her arrest that she needed to travel abroad for an urgent bone treatment that she claimed was unavailable in the Philippines.

The government refused to let her go this month, even after the Supreme Court ruled in her favor. She wore a head and neck brace as she was turned away from the Manila airport.

Arroyo successor President Benigno Aquino III has said the government wouldn't object to house arrest and wants the former leader treated with

Arroyo, who left office last year, is charged with ordering the rigging of 2007 congressional polls, which she denies. If convicted, she faces life im-

Aquino promised to uproot corruption in the Philippines and says he wants to start with Arroyo, accusing her of proliferating a culture of graft and eroding public trust in government.

In a police medical report leaked to Friday's Philippine Daily Inquirer, medical section head of the Philippine National Police National Capital Region Hermenegilda Salangad was quoted as saying that Arroyo's medical status "has significantly improved except



A protester shouts slogans calling for the imprisonment of former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo in front of hte Supreme Court Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2011 in Manila, Philippines.

for the complaints of pain in low back, left knee, weakness of both feet and weak neck."

Judge Jesus Mupas of the Pasay Regional Trial Court earlier ordered Arroyo's doctors at Manila's St. Luke's Medical Center to testify about her condition. Flaminiano objected, citing doctor-patient confidentiality and the fact she was no longer seeking a hospital stay, which the court had previously approved on humanitarian grounds and because of Arrovo's stature.

The Commission on Elections, an independent body that filed the charges against Arroyo, asked to be given three days before responding to Arroyo's motion for house arrest.

In the meantime, commission lawyer Juana Valesa wants Arroyo to be transferred to a government hospital. Flaminiano objected, saying she should stay in remain in the private hospital where she has been treated until the court decides whether to allow house arrest.

# 5 OFWs jailed in Saudi every week—Migrante

By TINA G. SANTOS PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—An average of five overseas Filipino workers are put behind bars weekly for various petty crimes in Saudi Arabia, a migrants' rights advocacy group said Friday.

According to John Leonard Monterona, regional director of Migrante-Middle East, between May and September this year, they monitored the arrest of 96 OFWs in different Saudi jails.

M-ME is a Filipino migrants' group that has chapters in Gulf Cooperating Council (GCC) countries.

"The data would mean that on average, there are five OFWs put behind bars weekly," Monterona noted.

Monterona said that 58 of the offenders were detained for "liquor possession," followed by drug-related cases with 25 arrests, immorality cases with seven and theft with six.

"Others were charged with physical injuries, seduction of minors, trespassing, road accident and falsification of document," Monterona said.

He added that 78 out of the 96 inmates were detained at the Malaz Central Jail in Riyadh, Saudi's capital city; while 10 are in Dammam jail, six in Al-Hassa jail, three each in Qatiff, Tuqba and Al-Hair jails, and one in Jubail Central jail.

Monterona said majority or 98 percent of the Filipino inmates were still awaiting court decisions though half of them were arrested in May 2011.

According to him, most of the OFW inmates were charged with petty crimes, aside from the 25 who were arrested for alleged drug-related activities.

"Petty crimes are punishable with imprisonment ranging from six months to one year plus a number of lashes," Monterona said, citing cases his group had come across previously. "Most of the 96 OFW inmates have been in jail for five to seven months ... and no court decision yet on these cases."

Monterona said he had spoken to some of the OFW inmates in Malaz jail who claimed that the Philippine Embassy did not hire a lawyer or provide legal assistance to them.

He said Philippine officials in Riyadh must pro-actively represent the OFW inmates in court to hasten the resolution of their cases.

"We would like to reiterate for the nth time our call to the Aquino government through the Department of Foreign Affairs-Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs (DFA-OUMWA) to consider hiring local Shariah lawyers on retention basis to render legal assistance to all jailed OFWs in Saudi Arabia, including the smooth facilitation of their release and deportation once they've completed their respective jail terms,' Monterona added.

He also urged OFWs to avoid committing offenses.

"The commission of petty crimes such as liquor [possession or consumption], theft, and immorality could be avoided. We only need to impose strict self-discipline and be vigilant. We are here to work for our families and children," he said.

# Philippine court orders Aquino kin to give up land

By JIM GOMEZ

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— The Philippine Supreme Court has ordered vast sugarcane plantation lands owned by relatives of the president to be distributed to thousands of farmers under a government land reform program.

The high court—which has recently been at odds with President Benigno Aquino III-said the 11,115-acre (4,500-hectare) Hacienda Luisita in northern Tarlac province should be turned over to 6,296 farm workers. The ruling, which was made public Thursday, changes a decision last July that gave the workers the option of getting shares of stock in a corporation that runs the plantation instead of land.

Left-wing peasant groups have alleged the stock-option scheme was conceived so the sprawling plantation owned by the president's relatives could evade the land reform program, which has been hampered for decades by opposition from influential landlords and a lack of government funds to buy the land from owners.

The court said the government's land reform policy aims to hand control over agricultural lands to farmers. "We realize that the farm worker beneficiaries will never have control over these agricultural lands for as long as they remain as stockholders" in Hacienda Luisita Inc., where they would remain minority owners, the court said.

Company lawyer and spokesman Antonio Ligon suggested that the sugar estate would likely comply with the order, which he has not yet received. "No one is above the law," Ligon told the ABS-CBN TV network.

# Luisita farmers to determine the mode of land distribution?

By KRISTINE L. ALAVE

MANILA, Philippines—The 6,200 farmer-beneficiaries of Hacienda Luisita would have the ultimate say on how the land is to be carved out and titled, the chief of the Department of Agrarian Reform said Friday.

Agrarian Reform Secretary Virgilio de los Reyes made this statement to the *Inquirer* as he was en route to a meeting with a group of Hacienda Luisita farmers, who have won a landmark ruling from the Supreme Court giving them a piece of 4,900 hectares covered by the land reform law.

De los Reyes said he would discuss the court ruling and what comes next for the land during a meeting with the farmers later Friday.

Reports from the massive sugar estate owned by the Cojuangco family, President Benigno Aquino's relatives,

He said about 4,000 other farm workers at the estate deserved land but were excluded in the court ruling.

The court also ordered Hacienda Luisita—owned mostly by Aguino's uncles, aunts and other relatives-to pay the farmers up to 1.3 billion pesos (\$30 million) from past sales of plantation lands, including those that have been turned into a residential enclave and a modern highway.

The decades-old plantation, which features sugar mills and farming communities, has

indicated that farmers there have been discussing whether they should pursue individual or collective titles.

Of this, De los Reyes said: "They would be given options. This should not be a debate. If it is collective or individual will be the choice of the owner of the land, the farmers.'

Many of the 6,200 beneficiaries belong to the same family, he explained. If they want their lot to be adjacent to the land of another family member, the DAR would allow that, De los Reyes said.

The DAR chief noted that it would be up to the farmers if they want to form cooperatives and engage in contract growing. Nobody would dictate to them what to plant.

"The primary decision maker is the farmer.... Some are saying that only sugarcane should be planted there. Who dictates that? If they want to plant sugarcane or vegetables, that is their choice," De los Reyes said.

long served as a symbol of the Aquino family's economic might. A decision by his politically influential relatives to give up the bulk of their landholdings to poor farmers has been seen as a crucial test of the president's resolve to battle crushing poverty, which has largely been blamed on Filipino farmers' lack of land in the countryside.

Presidential spokesman Edwin Lacierda said Aquino divested his share of the family wealth in the hacienda a month after he won a landslide victory in last year's presidential elections on a promise to battle corruption and appalling poverty, which afflicts a third of the Philippines' 94 million people.

"He has already divested, so there is nothing that will put him in a compromising position," Lacierda said in a news conference.

The Supreme Court has been at loggerheads with Aquino since his administration recently defied a court order that approved former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's request to leave the country for medical treatment as she faced elections fraud charges. Justice and elections officials later charged Arroyo in court, which ordered her placed under arrest in a hospital, where she has sought treatment for a bone disease.

The majority of the Supreme Court's 15 justices were appointed by Arroyo before she ended her stormy nine years in power in June last year. She then won a seat in the House of Representatives. Aquino refused to be sworn in as president by the current chief justice, Renato Corona, a former Arroyo chief of staff whom she appointed as head of the high tribunal shortly before she stepped down.

Supreme Court spokesman Midas Marquez and Lacierda separately said the court ruling on the hacienda was not influenced by differences between the high tribunal and the president, son of late pro-democracy icon Corazon Aquino, who had called on Arroyo to resign when she was implicated in corruption and vote-rigging scandals. Arroyo has denied any wrongdoing.

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# Samu't Sari

# **NEW GRADUATES**



Anna S. De Guzman receives her certificate from instructor James R. Abuy during the graduation ceremony for the Domestic Refrigeration and Aircon Mechanic - Batch 2 at the Filipino Workers Resource Center on Nov. 19.



From right, Domestic Refrigeration and Aircon Mechanic instructor James R. Abuy, labor representative Carmelina F. Velasquez, welfare officer Julia F. Fabian, and Business Management instructor Jun D. Banadera Jr.



 $Instructors\,James\,R.\,Abuy\,and\,Jun\,D.\,Banadera, Jr.\,join\,the\,female\,graduates\,of\,Domestic\,Refrigeration$ and Aircon Mechanic Batch 2 for a group photo.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Fruit and vegetable carving students under instructor Eduardo Elenzano start working on their watermelon as part of their course requirement before graduation last Oct. 22.



Labor representative Carmelina F. Velasquez, fourth left, and welfare officer Julia F. Fabian, second left, are flanked by instructors and officers of Domestic Refrigeration and Aircon Mechanic - Batch 2 last Saturday.

The men of Domestic Refrigeration and Aircon Mechanic Batch 2.



Alex Martin of Domestic Refrigeration and Aircon Mechanic - Batch 2 smiles for the camera with son Jr. and Nora Bengco.



**BIRTHDAY GET-TOGETHER** 

Friends celebrate the birthday of Mauro Ido, third from left, on Tuesday at the residence of Carol and Nap in Garapan.



**BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT** 

Happy birthday greetings go out to Elsa Yoshida, who is celebrating her special day today, Nov. 26! Cheers and hoping that you will enjoy your day. With love, from your family and friends. сонтявитер рното

SATURDAY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26-27, 2011 **13** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **Business**

# Portugal lowered to junk status as big strike hits

LISBON, Portugal (AP)— Portugal's efforts to climb out of its economic crisis suffered a double setback Thursday as its credit rating was downgraded to junk status and a major strike gave voice to broad public outrage over austerity measures that have squeezed living standards.

Portugal's deepening plight underlined Europe's difficulties in finding a way out of the continent's government debt crisis which has recently shown alarming signs of spreading to bigger nations, most notably Italy.

Like others in the 17-country eurozone, Portugal has embarked on a big austerity program to make its debts sustainable. Earlier this year, Portugal followed Greece

and Ireland in taking a bail- fiscal imbalances, high indebtout to avert bankruptcy.

As in Greece, though, the government's tough medicine, which is required by international creditors in return for the euro78 billion (\$104 billion) in bailout money, is unpopular. The strike had a huge turnout, making it possibly the biggest walkout in more than 20 years.

Police detained three demonstrators who scuffled with police outside Parliament after a protest march, Associated Press Television News reported.

"They are trying to destroy the national health service, and salaries haven't gone up since 2004," striking Dr. Pilar Vicente told APTN.

International ratings agency Fitch blamed Portugal's "large

edness across all sectors, and adverse macroeconomic outlook" for its decision to cut the country's rating by one notch to BB+. Rival Moody's already rates Portuguese bonds as junk, but Standard & Poor's rates them one notch above.

Fitch's decision to cut Portugal to a non-investment grade will likely mean it's even more difficult for the country, which is already mired in a deep recession and is witnessing rising levels of unemployment, to return to bond markets by its 2013 goal. That raises the unappetizing prospect that Portugal, like Greece, may need a second bailout.

"Portugal's downgrade goes to show how hard it will be for troubled economies to pull themselves out of the crisis and how long this will take," said Sony Kapoor, managing director of Re-Define, an economic think tank. "The Portuguese downgrade highlights the limits of austerity policies both domestically in Portugal and in the wider euro area."

The 24-hour walkout came as Portugal, one of western Europe's smallest and frailest economies, endures increasing hardship as it tries to get its borlems facing its suppliers. rowing levels down.

The strike was called by Portugal's two largest trade union representing confederations, more than 1 million mostly blue-collar workers. Much of the private sector remained open for business, but a huge Volkswagen car plant south of Lisbon, which accounts for 10 percent of Portuguese exports, decided to shut down production for the day because of prob-

Much of the disruption was centered on the transport sector. Airlines canceled hundreds of international flights, and the airports of Lisbon, Porto and Faro were mostly empty as tens of thousands of workers walked off the job. Commuters had to get to work without regular bus or train services. The Lisbon subway was shut, and police said roads into the capital were more congested than normal.



Union members and supporters shout slogans while marching during a general strike protesting austerity measures linked to a euro 78 billion (\$104 billion) international bailout, Lisbon, Thursday, Nov. 24 2011.

# AT&T, Telekom to press ahead with T-Mobile deal

Deutsche Telekom and AT&T vowed Thursday to press ahead with the planned sale of the German company's T-Mobile USA unit to the U.S. cell phone operator despite concerns raised by American authorities.

Nevertheless, AT&T said it plans to take a pretax accounting charge of \$4 billion in the current quarter to reflect the break-up fees that would be due to Deutsche Telekom if regulators block the deal.

The two companies said they had withdrawn applications to the Federal Communications Commission regarding the merger and intended to seek its approval again "as soon as practical."

They took the step to consider "all options at the FCC and to focus their continuing efforts on obtaining antitrust clearance for the transaction from the Department of Justice," which filed a lawsuit in August to stop the deal, AT&T said in a statement.

"Both companies are continuing to pursue the sale of T-Mobile USA to AT&T," Deutsche Telekom stressed.

Both U.S. agencies worry that the deal would hamper competition and lead to higher prices for consumers.

Deutsche Telekom AG and AT&T Inc. made their move after the chairman of the FCC earlier this week came out against the merger.

Julius Genachowski made his position known in a document he circulated to fellow commissioners Tuesday.

He recommended sending AT&T's proposed \$39 billion takeover of T-Mobile to an administrative law judge for review and a hearing. That's what the FCC does when it opposes a merger.

In a research note Thursday, Jefferies International analyst Ulrich Rathe said the withdrawal of the FCC application, as well as the opposition by the Justice Department, indicate that "the companies are already well into working out a new version of the deal." The analyst, who rates Deutsche Telekom "Buy," said the charge confirms the break-up fee will be difficult for AT&T to avoid if the deal is not completed.

Deutsche In Frankfurt, Telekom shares closed down 0.6 percent Thursday at euro8.69 (\$11.67), almost mirroring the 0.5 percent decline in the DAX index of blue-chip stocks.

The proposed deal, announced in March, would vault the combination of America's No. 2 carrier AT&T and No. 4 T-Mobile into the top spot ahead of Verizon.

Dallas-based AT&T has about 101 million wireless subscribers. T-Mobile, the Bellevue, Washington-based subsidiary of Deutsche Telekom AG of Germany, has 34 million.

Verizon Wireless, a joint venture between Verizon Communications Inc. and Vodafone Group PLC, has about 108 million, while Sprint Nextel Corp. has 53 million.

# Ex-CEO wants Olympus to come clean on scandal

TOKYO (AP)—Olympus Corp.'s former CEO expressed confidence Thursday that justice would be served as Japanese investigators probe the cover-up of massive investment losses at the company that has become one of Japan's biggest financial scandals.

But Michael Woodford, 51, who met with Japanese prosecutors, police and financial authorities earlier in the day, acknowledged the investigation into the huge accounting irregularities that date back decades at Olympus will likely take a long time.

He also told reporters he was prepared to return to lead the Tokyo-based camera and medinew "dream team" of directors.

Woodford was fired as CEO last month after questioning dubious accounting at Olympus, but he remains on the board and can only be removed by shareholders.

He said he plans to confront the Olympus board Friday. He already has spoken with the Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office, the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department and the Securities and Exchange Surveillance Commission.

Woodford said Japan cannot evade getting to the bottom of the scandal, because he had gone so public, the scandal has

cal equipment company with a the attention of the international media, and U.S. and British authorities are also investigating.

> "This story will be different," he said. "Olympus may be the way this country changes, maybe a bit for the better."

He was speaking at a panel at a Tokyo hall sponsored by The Economist magazine and answered questions from other reporters and guests.

Under intense pressure, Olympus has admitted that a \$687 million payment to an obscure Wall Street firm for financial advice and expensive acquisitions were used to cover up investment losses dating to the 1990s.

The board abruptly ousted Woodford for questioning the deals and payment. At the time, Olympus said Woodford was sacked because his management style was incompatible with the company's culture.

The scandal has cast a harsh light on Japanese corporate governance, which has been repeatedly criticized as falling behind global standards.

Recent media reports have pointed to possible ties between Tokyo-based Olympus and organized crime, but an outside panel created by Olympus to investigate its accounting has said it has so far found no evidence of such ties.

**BUSINESS BRIEFS** 

# **Obama acknowledges tough economy** this Thanksgiving

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is urging Americans facing tough economic times this Thanksgiving to believe in the nation's ability to overcome its challenges. In a taped Thanksgiving message, Obama says the partisanship and gridlock in Washington may make people question whether unity is possible. But he insists the nation's problems can be solved if all Americans do their part. Obama is also encouraging Americans to remember the men and women of the military who are spending the holiday serving overseas. And he thanks those who are taking time out of their Thanksgiving celebrations to serve in soup kitchens and shelters. The president will celebrate Thanksgiving with family at the White House.

# Libyan official says oil output increasing fast

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—Libya's oil production is quickly increasing and now stands at more than 600,000 barrels a day, a prominent Libyan oil expert said Thursday. Ali Tarhouni, who just stepped

down as the oil and finance minister, said he expects production to reach 700,000 barrels a day within a few days. He held his government post until a new transitional government was sworn in Thursday. He said he refused an offer to serve in the Cabinet of Prime Minister Abdurrahim el-Keib because of the many challenges it will face in establishing governance and economic stability.

## EU agency: air pollution costs exceed \$134 billion

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP)—Air pollution isn't just harmful—it's expensive, resulting in health care and environmental costs of more than euro100 billion (\$130 billion) in 2009, the European Union's environment agency said Thursday. The energy sector had the highest pollution costs, followed by manufacturing and production processes, according to the report by the European Environment Agency. The findings underscore the environmental and health impacts of fossil fuel-based power generation, 'making the case for introducing cleaner types of energy even more urgent," EEA head Jacqueline McGlade said in a statement.



Former Olympus Corp. Chief Executive Michael Woodford is surrounded by the media after he visited the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department in Tokyo on Thursday Nov. 24, 2011.

# **Nation**

# Thanksgiving celebrated among friends, strangers

tors cheered and sang at annual Thanksgiving Day parades from New York to Philadelphia to Detroit and friends enjoyed feasts with strangers at Occupy protest gatherings, reminding each other there is much to be grateful for despite the country's hard economic times

Delighted crowds gathered Thursday for Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade on the streets of Manhattan under brilliant sunshine. Millions more viewed the live broadcast of the annual holiday production on television from the comfort of their homes.

"Here comes Snoopy!" said an excited Regan Lynch, 5, nudging her grandfather, Nick Pagnozzi.

Pagnozzi, 59, of Saddle River, N.J., drove into the city at 6 a.m. to get a seat on the bleachers along Central Park West. He said Regan wanted to make sure he took pictures of every balloon.

With winds gusting to 22 miles per hour and temperatures in the mid-30s, parade-goers in Detroit bundled up. Before the celebration, 21,000 runners followed the course for the Turkey Trot races. A cluster of Ford Model T cars in the parade testified to the city's status as America's battered but rebounding auto capital.

"I know that for many of you, this Thanksgiving is more difficult than most," President Barack Obama said in his weekly radio address. "But no matter how tough things are right now, we still give thanks for that most American of blessings, the chance to determine our own destiny."

The president later telephoned 10 U.S. service members stationed abroad to wish them a



The "Spiderman" float is seen during the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in Times Square in New York on Thursday, Nov. 24, 2011. The parade premiered in 1924, this is its 85th year.

happy Thanksgiving and praise their military service.

Dishing up Thanksgiving meals, U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords appeared at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in her hometown of Tucson, Ariz. She used only her left hand as she served, a sign that physical damage remains from the injuries she suffered when she was shot in the head Jan. 8 as she met with constituents. Eighteen others were injured and six people died in the assault.

Giffords donned a ball cap and an apron with her nickname of "Gabby" sewn on the front. Her retired astronaut husband, Mark Kelly, supported her from her left side as she worked the turkey station on the serving line.

"Happy Thanksgiving, thank you for your service," she told Airman 1st Class Millie Gray of Kansas City, Mo.

Others in San Francisco, Oakland, Calif., and New York celebrated the holiday, serving turkey or donating their time in solidarity with the anti-Wall Street movement triggered by frustration with the slow pace of the economic recovery.

Some 3,000 meals were served in New York City. In Las Vegas, Occupy organizer Sebring Frehner said protesters had a potluck Thanksgiving meal at their campsite near the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He said he was happy to skip the traditional meal

"Instead of hunkering down with five or six close individuals in your home, people you probably see all of the time anyway, you are celebrating Thanksgiving with many different families—kind of like the original Thanksgiving," Frehner said.

The thousands lining the parade route in Detroit for the 9 a.m. start, watched dozens of floats and hundreds of marching musicians, including the 170-person Viking Marching Bad from Walled Lake Central High School.

Forty dancers from Deborah's State Door dressed as hot dogs, and a 41st costumed as a bottle of mustard, made up a contingent sponsored by the National Coney Island restaurant group.

Philadelphia's Thanksgiving parade, which began in 1920 and considers itself the nation's oldest, went off with one hitch. Before the parade, in a preparation area, a balloon of the lasagna-loving comics feline Garfield burst while being inflated.

# Occupy movements nationwide celebrate holiday

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—

Most Americans spent Thanksgiving snug inside homes with families and football. Others used the holiday to give thanks alongside strangers at outdoor Occupy encampments, serving turkey or donating their time in solidarity with the anti-Wall Street movement that has gripped a nation consumed by economic despair.

In San Francisco, 400 occupiers at a plaza in the financial district were served traditional Thanksgiving fixings sent by the renowned Glide Memorial Church to volunteers and supporters of the movement fighting social and economic inequality.

"We are thankful that we are, first and foremost, in a country where we can protest," said the Rev. Cecil Williams, the founder of Glide and a fixture in the city's activist community. "And we are thankful that we believe that there are things that could be worked out and that we have a sense of hope. But we know that hope only comes when you were evicted on Nov. 15.

make a stand."

While the celebration remained peaceful in San Francisco, an amplified version of a family Thanksgiving squabble erupted in New York when police ordered a halt to drumming by protesters at an otherwise traditional holiday meal.

About 500 protesters were digging into donated turkey and trimmings at lower Manhattan's Zuccotti Park, when police told a drummer to drop playing.

About 200 protesters surrounded a group of about 30 officers and began shouting in the park where the Occupy movement was launched on Sept. 17.

"Why don't you stop being cops for Thanksgiving?" yelled one protester.

"Why don't you arrest the drummers in the Thanksgiving parade?" hollered another.

A van rolled up with more officers, but they stayed back as protesters eventually decided to call off the drumming and return to their food. Tensions have run high at the park since campers

# Giffords serves Thanksgiving meal at Ariz. base

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords helped serve a Thanksgiving meal to service members and retirees at a military base in her hometown.

Giffords arrived in the dining hall at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson at midday Thursday wearing a ball cap and an apron with her nickname of "Gabby" sewn on the front. She was accompanied by her retired astronaut husband, Mark Kelly, who also donned an apron.

Giffords used only her left hand as she served, a sign that physical damage remains from the injuries she suffered when she was shot in January.

Kelly supported her from her left side as she worked the turkey station on the serving line. He served ham.

Afterward, she mingled with service members, exchanging pleasantries and mostly one-word greetings and responses.

She did tell Airman 1st Class Millie Gray, of Kansas City, Mo., "Happy Thanksgiving, thank you for your service."

Gray said she had intended to only grab a plate and head back to her dorm to eat, until she heard that Giffords was going to be there.

"She's such an inspiration and her story is so inspirational, it really made me proud. I felt very proud and very humble," Gray said. "It just feels really good to see that she



U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., waves to airmen while serving a Thanksgiving meal at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Thursday, Nov. 24, 2011, in Tucson, Ariz.

is out here supporting the troops, and just continuing to be an inspiration and a strong role model for Americans in general.

"She was very warm, asked how our meal was, which, of course, was amazing. The food is awesome," Gray said. "She and her husband were very, just delightful and asked a lot of questions. It was just very warmhearted, and I told her she was an inspiration and she was very thankful for that."

Giffords and Kelly left after less than

Giffords has been undergoing intensive rehabilitation at TIRR Memorial Hermann in Houston as she recovers from a gunshot wound to the head. She was among 19 people shot Jan. 8 as she met with constituents outside a Tucson supermarket. Six people died.

The congresswoman arrived in Tucson on Tuesday evening from Houston for a private visit with her parents and other family members and friends.

"It's always special to have a member of Congress come and spend time with the troops and show support," said Brig. Gen Jon Norman, acting commander of the the 12th Air Forces, Southern. "But after evervthing that she's been through, it's a little bit more special."

Giffords' staff said base officials originally asked a member of the congresswoman's staff to take part in the annual Thanksgiving dinner. When the staff member told Giffords about the event, the congresswoman decided she wanted to go herself.

Giffords previously returned to Tucson for the Father's Day and Labor Day weekends.

# **Gun issue represents** tough politics for Obama

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—They are fuzzy about some issues but the Republican presidential candidates leave little doubt about where they stand on gun rights.

Rick Perry and Rick Santorum go pheasant hunting and give interviews before heading out. Newt Gingrich and Herman Cain speak to the National Rifle Association convention. Michele Bachmann tells People magazine she wants to teach her daughters how to shoot because women need to be able to protect themselves. Mitt Romney, after backing some gun control measures in Massachusetts, now presents himself as a strong Second Amendment supporter.

President Barack Obama, on the other hand, is virtually silent on the issue.

He has hardly addressed it since a couple months after the January assassination attempt on Rep. Gabrielle Giffords in Tucson, Ariz., when he promised to develop new steps on gun safety in response. He still has failed to do so, even as Tucson survivors came to Capitol Hill last week to push for action to close loopholes in the background check system.

Democrats have learned the hard way that embracing gun control can be terrible politics. and the 2012 presidential election is shaping up to underscore just how delicate the issue can

be. With the election likely to be decided largely by states where hunting is a popular pastime, like Missouri, Ohio or Pennsylvania, candidates of both parties want to win over gun owners, not alienate them.

For Republicans, that means emphasizing their pro-gun credentials. But for Obama and the Democrats, the approach is trickier.

Obama's history in support of strict gun control measures prior to becoming president makes it difficult for him to claim he's a Second Amendment champion, even though he signed a bill allowing people to take loaded guns into national parks. At the same time, he's apparently decided that his record backing gun safety is nothing to boast of, either, perhaps because of the power of the gun lobby and their opposition to anything smacking of gun control.

The result is that while Republicans are more than happy to talk up their support for gun rights, Obama may barely be heard from on the issue at all.

"Gun control is a fight that the administration is not willing to pick. They're not likely to win it," said Harry Wilson, author of a book on gun politics and director of the Institute for Policy and Opinion Research at Roanoke College in Virginia.

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# Asia

# Top Marine spends Thanksgiving in Afghanistan

COMBAT OUTPOST HAN-SON, Afghanistan (AP)—A turkey trot it was not.

The U.S. Marines' top general, James Amos, sprinted up and down the Helmand River Valley in southern Afghanistan on Thursday, visiting frontline Marines at nine remote outposts to share Thanksgiving and applaud their gains against the Taliban in a region where al-Qaida hatched the 9/11 plot a decade ago.

Traveling mostly in an MV-22 Osprey, the hybrid that flies like an airplane and takes off and lands like a helicopter, Amos began shortly after daylight and

finished 14 hours later—and, improbably, managed to confront just one turkey dinner.

At one point the 65-year-old Amos referred to his unusual daytrip as the "Bataan death march," a reference to the gruesome forced march of American POWs in the Philippines during World War II.

Amos shook hands with hundreds of Marines, all veterans of tough fighting in Helmand Province, which has been a focal point of the U.S.-led strategy to counter the Taliban and other insurgent groups. The

security in Helmand over the past year, but with President Barack Obama having ordered 33,000 U.S. troops to withdraw from Afghanistan by next September, the prospects for sustaining those gains are uncertain, and the subject of debate at home.

At each stop Amos struck similar themes in pep talks to his Marines: they are coming close to winning, and when the Marine Corps leaves Afghanistan it will shift its focus to the Pacific, where he said "a whole lot of opportunities" will await Marines have vastly improved a Corps no longer bogged

down by land wars in the greater Middle East. He also said Thanksgiving is a time for Marines to reflect on "the unique fraternal bond" among men and women at war.

Marine Sgt. Maj. Michael Barrett, the top enlisted Marine, who accompanied Amos, said that for most troops Thanksgiving was just another day at war—until they finished their work.

"Then they'll have a meal of a lifetime," he said.

The feast was finally set for Amos when he arrived after dark at Camp Dwyer, the southernmost stop on his trip. He helped heap plates with roast turkey, baked ham and prime rib—with all the traditional fixings—and then sat amongst the troops to finish it off.

Amos said "Happy Thanksgiving" at each Marine outpost, but the troops did not seem in a festive mood—at least in the presence of their commandant. The business of war does not take a holiday. When he asked the Marines what was on their minds, they asked about the future of the Corps, the latest

of Washington's stalled budget debate, the possibility of seeing some of their retirement benefits go away, and internal Marine issues.

Some conveyed a sense of confidence that Afghanistan would soon be behind them.

At Combat Outpost Hanson, one member of the 3rd battalion, 6th Marine Regiment asked, "Who do you want us to fight next, sir?" Amos said he did not know, but he reassured the Marine that there would be no shortage of security crises in the years ahead.

# NKorea threatens SKorea's presidency over drills

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)— North Korea threatened Thursday to turn Seoul's presidential palace into a "sea of fire," stepping up its rhetoric one day after South Korea conducted large-scale military drills near a front-line island attacked by the North last year.

On Wednesday, South Korea mobilized aircraft, rocket launchers, artillery guns and naval boats for the first anniversary of the artillery attack on a military garrison and fishing community on Yeonpyeong Island in the Yellow Sea. Two marines and two construction workers were killed in the 2010 attack, the first on a civilian area since the 1950-53 Korean War.

Pyongyang accuses Seoul of provoking last year's attack, saying it struck after warning the South not to hold live-fire drills in the disputed waters. South Korea has said it fired shells southward, not toward the North, as part of routine exercises last year.

"If they dare to impair our dignity again, the deluge of fire on Yeonpyeong Island will lead to the sea of fire in Blue House" in Seoul, the North's People's Army warned in a statement from Pyongyang. "They should not forget the lesson taught" by the island shelling.

If provoked again like last year, the North's military will launch merciless, annihilating and more powerful strikes to "blow up the island without any trace," the North's Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of Korea said in a separate statement later Thursday.

Both statements were carried by the official Korean Central News Agency.

The North has issued similar threats over the years at times of tension with South Korea.

The Korean peninsula remains in a technical state of war because their conflict ended in a truce, not a peace treaty. However, North Korea disputes the maritime border drawn by the U.N. in 1953, and the waters have been a flashpoint for violence over the years.

Since then, South Korea has spent millions of dollars beefing up its arsenal. Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman Jung Seung-jo said his forces would "crush the enemy" if they strike again.

maneuvers Wednesday's took place off Baengnyeong Island, South Korean-held territory near the maritime border. The drills were meant to send a strong message to North Korea but did not include live-fire exercises, military officials said.

Relations between the two Koreas sank to the their lowest point in years in 2010 after two incidents-the shelling of Yeonpyeong Island and the sinking of a South Korean warship that killed 46 sailors. Pyongyang denies involvement in the sinking.

However, there have been some signs tensions are easing, with both sides seeking to discuss ways to resume nuclear disarmament-for-aid talks and allowing South Korea's religious and cultural figures to travel to North Korea. On Thursday, a group of South Korean scholars visited the North Korean border town of Kaesong for a joint project of recovering and preserving the site of an ancient palace.

South Korean President Lee Myung-bak said Wednesday during a visit to a military command that he was sorry North Korea had not yet apologized for the shelling. He said Pyongyang must apologize if it wants relations to improve.



In this photo taken with a cell phone, Marine Gen. James Amos visits Combat Outpost Geronimo in southern Afghanistan Thursday, Nov. 24, 2011, as he visits troops.

# India expands opportunity for foreign retailers

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—India's Cabinet decided Thursday to allow more foreign direct investment in the nation's huge retail industry, a move that could strengthen the country's food supply chain and open India to giant global retailers.

Top retailers such as Wal-Mart, Carrefour, Tesco and IKEA have long lobbied for a chance to build stores in the country of 1.2 billion people. Foreign multibrand retailers have Indian partners in wholesale operations, but no retail presence.

Multibrand retail stores could be built with up to 51 percent foreign direct investment under the change the Cabinet approved Thursday. The Cabinet also allowed 100 percent foreign direct investment of single-brand retail operations, up from 51 percent.

Advocates see the move as a way to strengthen India's almost absent food supply chainwhich is so beset by spoilage, poor infrastructure, hoarding and middlemen that the government estimates some 30 percent of the country's produce rots

while food costs soar and tens of millions of people go to bed hungry each night.

Opposition parties and some allies of the government resisted the move. The country has struggled to find consensus because of concerns about whether expanding foreign investment could hurt millions of small shopkeepers, as well as the poor.

The spokesman for the ruling Congress party, Abhishek Manu Singhvi, called the decision "centrist and reasonable." He was speaking to NDTV news channel.

The main opposition, the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party, decried the move.

"The government has clearly bowed to international pressure," Chandan Mitra, a spokesman told the same TV channel.

Wal-Mart, British-based Tesco PLC and French-based retailer Carrefour welcomed the decision.

"Allowing foreign direct investment in retail would be good news for Indian consumers and businesses, and we await further details on any conditions,"

Tesco said in its statement.

Raj Jain, president of Walmart India, called it an "first important step," but added in an e-mailed statement that the company will need to study the details further to determine how it will affect its ability to do business in India.

Tesco currently has a franchise arrangement with Tata Group's Star Bazaar hypermarket chain, supplying merchandise to outlets in India.

Carrefour opened a New Delhi store last year and would not say what expansion plans might lie ahead.

"This legal evolution should contribute to modernize the Indian food supply chain and to fight against food inflation for the benefit of Indian customers," its statement said. It added the decision would help India's farmers and the nation's general economic development.

Ashish Sanyal, managing director of AMP Retail Services Pvt. Ltd, said, "It's a good decision that will benefit everyone." He is a consultant who helps retailers enter India.

# **ASIAN BRIEFS**

### **Afghan president** condemns killing of 7

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghan president Hamid Karzai on Thursday condemned the killing of six children and an adult in the southern part of the country that local officials blame on a NATO airstrike. Karzai's office said in a statement that local officials said NATO was responsible for the incident in the Zharzai district of Kandahar province. NATO said that Gen. John Allen—the top U.S. and allied commander in Afghanistan—ordered an investigation into the incident, which occurred Wednesday. The statement said Allen was saddened by the incident, which it said "concerns several civilians being killed and injured.

### 2nd earthquake of day shakes northern Japan

TOKYO (AP)—Two strong earthquakes rattled northern Japan on Thursday, but neither caused any apparent damage or a tsunami. A magnitude-6.1 quake struck Thursday evening south of the northern island of Hokkaido, Japan's Meteorological Agency said. It hit about 465 miles (750 kilometers) northeast of Tokyo and 19 miles (30 kilometers) below the sea surface. The agency did not issue a tsunami warning. About 3,900 households in the towns of Erimo and Samani lost electricity shortly after the quake, but power was restored about an hour later, according to the Hokkaido Electric Power Co.

# Man angry about food prices slaps **Indian minister**

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—A man slapped India's agriculture minister in the face on Thursday, apparently to draw attention to rising food prices and corruption. Sharad Pawar was talking to reporters at a political function when the man attacked him. TV news reports said the man was shouting slogans about inflated food prices and graft. Television footage showed the man brandishing a knife as he was dragged away by security officials and Pawar's aides. "Don't you know why I hit him? The common man is distressed. Am I wrong?" he shouted as he was being taken away. CNN-IBN TV reported that the man was detained by police. Pawar was not seriously hurt.

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# World

# Protesters reject Yemen president's power transfer

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—A U.S.-backed deal for Yemen's authoritarian president to step down fell far short of the demands of protesters who fought regime supporters on the streets of Sanaa Thursday in clashes that left five dead.

The agreement ending President Ali Abdullah Saleh's 33-year rule provides for only the shallowest of changes at the top of the regime, something the U.S. administration likely favored to preserve a fragile alliance against one of the world's most active al-Qaida branches based in Yemen.

The plan drawn up by Yemen's oil-rich Gulf neighbors does not directly change the system Saleh put in place over three decades to serve his interests.

"It gives an opportunity for regime survival," said Yemen expert Ibrahim Sharqieh at the Brookings Doha Center. "The only one we've seen changing here is the president, but the state institutions and everything else remain in place. Nothing else has changed."

Saleh signed the agreement Wednesday in the Saudi capital Riyadh, transferring power to his vice president within 30 days. If it holds, he will be the fourth dictator pushed from power this year by the Arab Spring uprisings.

But the deal leaves much more of the old regime intact than the uprisings in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya—something that will almost certainly translate into continued unrest. Protesters who have been in the millions for nearly 10 months were out again Thursday, rejecting a provision that gives Saleh immunity from prosecution.



Protestors run during a demonstration demanding the prosecution of Yemen's President Ali Abdullah Saleh in Sanaa, Yemen, Thursday, Nov. 24, 2011.

Throughout his rule, Saleh consolidated power through wily tactics that included exploiting tribal and regional rivalries and putting close relatives and confidantes in key security positions. For years, he accepted funds from the West to fight Islamist militants, then turned around and used some of those militants to help fight his enemies.

Ruling party and opposition members say Saleh signed the deal under heavy pressure from the U.S. and Saudi governments and that he feared possible sanctions against him and his family, who are suspected of having huge fortunes stashed in foreign banks. Some doubt that the deal marks the end of political life for the president, who has proved to be a wily politician and

suggested in remarks after the signing ceremony that he could play a future political role in the country, along with his ruling party.

Yemen is the poorest country in the Arab world and even before the uprising, the government exerted only weak authority over most of the country. The uprising led to a collapse in security that created a vacuum al-Qaida militants exploited to gain a firmer foothold in the country. The militants even seized some territory in the south.

# **Abdullah** Saleh

Yemen president to step down

### **Early life**

Born 1942 into a tribe living near Sanaa, Yemen

Military Begins career in 1958 as a noncommissioned officer Family Married; family members,

sons in key government posts

### Rise to power

1960 Becomes 2nd lieutenant 1978 Elected by Parliament to be president of North Yemen; crushes attempt to overthrow him a few months later

1990 North and South Yemen unite; both parliaments elect him president

1999 Becomes Yemen's first directly-elected president

2005 During 27th anniversary of his presidency announces he will not run in 2006; later changes mind and accepts nomination

### Yemen protests

Jan. 2011 Thousands call for Saleh to guit in protests that continue throughout the year, leave hundreds dead

June 3 Flees to Saudi Arabia after an assassination attempt; returns to Yemen Sept. 23

Nov. 23 Signs plan in Saudi Arabia to step down in 30 days

© 2011 MCT Source: Reuters, BBC, MCT Photo Services

# Triple bombings in south Iraq kill 19, injure 64

**BASRA**, Iraq (AP)—A string of bombings in a southern oil city killed 19 people Thursday evening and injured dozens more, a grim sign of the security challenges Iraq will face after American troops go home.

The U.S. military is drawing down its troops ahead of an end-of-December deadline to have all American forces out of the country. Incidents like Thursday's triple bombing in a city seen as key to Iraq's economic development show the dangerous prospects awaiting Iraqis next year.

Three bombs went off in a popular open-air market in Basra, police and health officials said.

The third bomb exploded a few minutes after Iraqi army and police forces arrived on the scene in response to the earlier blasts, officials said. The third blast caused all the fatalities and almost all of the injuries, the officials said.

Among the dead and wounded were many policemen and Iraqi army

The police officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to reporters.

Kamal Ali was working at a clothing shop across the street when the blasts went off. He said after the first explosion, bystanders rushed to help the victims. When another blast went off about five minutes later, the terrified people ran to escape.

Then police and soldiers rushed to the scene before the third and most deadly bomb went off.

"Most of the casualties are police

and Iraqi troops who rushed to help the victims and cordoned off the scene. They sacrificed their lives for the poor people," Ali said.

The head of the Basra provincial council, Ahmed al-Sulaiti, confirmed

"We can't blame the security forces for this act. They were the people most hurt," he said by telephone from Basra.

Basra is about 340 miles (550 kilometers) southeast of Baghdad It is considered the center of Iraq's burgeoning oil sector.

Many foreign oil companies have offices there. The country is relying on foreign companies to bring the money and expertise needed to develop Iraq's vast oil sector, which has been ravaged by war, sanctions and neglect.

# Snowless Scandinavians wonder 'where's winter?'

STOCKHOLM (AP)—For some reason, Scandinavia is not its frigid self, with unusually warm weather delaying the onset of winter in northern latitudes normally decked in white.

The lack of snow has been bad news for winter sports-World Cup ski races have been dropped, or held on artificial snow, and mountain ski resorts are unable to open.

There are even reports of bird song and blooming gardens in some places typically entering the winter freeze at this time of year.

"Some flowers, like roses, have actually begun to blossom for a second time," said Mats Rosenberg, a biologist in Orebro, south-central Sweden.

Weather experts say this fall is on track to become one of the warmest on record in the northern part of Scandinavia, where the start of winter has been delayed by more than a month in certain locations.

In the Finnish town of Sodankyla, 80 miles (130 kilometers) north of the Arctic Circle, snow cover started Nov. 17, the latest date in 100 years, said Pauli Jokinen, spokesman at the Finnish Meteorological Institute.

Animals-such as stoats, hares and willow grouse—that change color with the season turned white weeks before the snows came, bringing an eerie feeling to the snowless wilds of Lapland.

"It was really very weird-ghost-

like white figures darting among the yellow leaves and lichen," said Viljo Pesonen, mayor of the town of 9,000.

"They don't go by the weather conditions, time determines when they turn white. It has also made the place much darker as there has been no snow to lighten the shortening days," he said, adding that heavy rain during the day had already cleared fields of snow.

Earlier this month, World Cup Alpine skiing races were moved from Levi, Finland, to Austria because of the lack of snow.

Cross-country World Cup races in Norway last weekend had to be moved from barren ground in Beitostoelen to Sjusjoen, where at least it was cold enough for artificial snow to stick.

Ski lifts remain idle in Are, Sweden's biggest ski resort, which normally opens in the first half of November.

"But there is some snow at the very top, and so you have to throw the skis over the shoulder and make the 4-mile (6 kilometer) walk up there if you want to ski," said Benny Paulsson, a spokesman for Are's tourist office.

According to Sweden's meteorological office SMHI, the average temperature measured for November so far is 12.6 degrees Fahrenheit (7 degrees Celsius) above average.

# 26 bodies dumped in mass slaying in Guadalajara

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (AP)— The bound and gagged bodies of 26 men were found dumped before dawn Thursday in the heart of the picturesque city of Guadalajara, a sign that full-scale war between drug cartels may have come to the metropolis that hosted last month's Pan American Games.

Law-enforcement officials said the men were found, shot execution-style, in two vans and a pickup truck abandoned near the Milennium Arches, one of the most recognizable landmarks in Mexico's second-largest city.

Best known as the home of mariachi music and tequila, Guadalajara also sits on the main highway running through western Mexico from the methamphetamine-producing state of Michoacan north toward the Pacific Coast state of Sinaloa. In recent months, security officials and analysts have worried that the city could become a target for the Zetas drug cartel, which has been using paramilitary-style tactics and headlinegrabbing atrocities in a national push to grab territory from older organized crime groups.

"These acts of barbarism show how the war between cartels, and crime, is getting more brutal," Guadalajara's mayor, Jorge Aristoteles Sandoval, told

A message was found with the

bodies in one of the vehicles, said Luis Carlos Najera, public security secretary for the state of Jalisco. He provided no details, but Mexican cartels frequently leave threatening messages with the bodies of their victims as a way of sowing fear and taking credit for their actions.

"It's sad to see what's going on," taxi driver Jesus Amado said. "We used to be looking at the problem from afar. Now we're not, we've got it right here."

Officials initially reported that there were 23 bodies found. Ulises Enrique Camacho, a spokesman for the attorney-general's office, said Thursday afternoon that the toll had risen to 26.

# YoungStyle

# Toy safety report finds some holiday dangers

JENNIFER C. KERF ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—Hidden dangers lurk in some of those less-expensive toys that parents might grab as stocking stuffers this time of year—like a Sesame Street Oscar the Grouch doll.

The small furry green Oscar, purchased for \$6.99, was one of the toys singled out in the annual toy safety report from the U.S. Public Interest Research Group.

The consumer advocate's report, released Tuesday, found just over a dozen toys on store shelves that violate federal safety standards. Some had unsafe levels of lead or chemicals called phthalates, and others contained small parts that young

children could choke on. Besides Oscar, other toys deemed potentially dangerous included a plastic book for babies; a \$1 plastic mini-crossbow that fires off little balls and a hand-held "whirly wheel."

The Oscar doll has a small hat that could come off easily, which is a possible choking hazard, PIRG said. The crossbow's small parts also put young children at risk of choking, according to the report.

The book and the whirly wheel had high levels of lead, according to the study. But an importer of the whirly wheel disputes that, and says the company's own testing shows the spinning magnetic toy with lead levels well below the limit.



Dr. Jeffrey Upperman uses a standard measuring device, about one inch in diameter, to demonstrate a small toy that is a choking hazard, as toys that are deemed unsafe by the California Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG) are demonstrated at Children's Hospital Los Angeles Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2011.



US Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) Commissioner Robert Adler, left, and Nasima Hossain, takes part in a news conference on dangerous or toxic toys, Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2011, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

PIRG also warned about toys that are too loud and could lead to damaged hearing, such as an Elmo talking cellphone that the group says tested just above voluntary industry noise limits.

Ed Mierzwinski, the group's consumer program director, said industrial chemicals and toxins in toys were the biggest problems the group found this year. Exposure to lead can cause irreversible brain damage, and some studies have linked phthalates to reproductive problems.

Toy makers played down the report and pointed to government figures showing sharp declines in the number of national toy recalls.

"All eyes have been on toy safety for several years now,"

says Joan Lawrence, the Toy Industry Association's vice president for safety standards. "I am confident that the toys on store shelves are safe. The toy industry works year-round on this."

Government figures show 34 toy recalls in fiscal year 2011—down from 46 recalls the previous year; 50 in 2009 and 172 in 2008. Recalls related to lead were down from 19 in 2008 to four this past year.

PIRG credited a 2008 law that set stronger standards for children's products, including strict limits on lead, for helping to make many of the products on store shelves safer for youngsters. The law was passed after a wave of recalls



Nasima Hossain from the US Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) demonstrates a toy that has high noise levels during their news conference on dangerous or toxic toys, Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2011, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

of lead-tainted toys.

Bob Adler, a commissioner at the Consumer Product Safety Commission, said some problems remain but added that new rules that require manufacturers to have their toys tested at independent third-party labs have led to important improvements in safety.

"I would feel much more confident today than I would several years ago," Adler said as the report was released.

PIRG reviewed about 200 toys and other children's products from major retailers and dollar stores for its 26th annual "Trouble in Toyland" report. The full list and report can be found at http://www.uspirg.org/edfund/toysafety-2011.

# When raindrops fall, you can be indoors stringing clay beads for colorful bracelet



When raindrops fall, you can be indoors stringing clay beads for colorful bracelet.

By KATHY ANTONIOTTI AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

Legend says that 1

Legend says that Rain Day in Waynesburg, Pa., began in 1874 when a local farmer said rain almost always fell on July 29, which was also his birthday.

Waynesburg is a small town of about 5,000 residents 60 miles southwest of Pittsburgh.

The farmer mentioned the phenomenon at the local drugstore, which inspired the pharmacist to continue the farmer's practice of tracking the weather each year on that date.

Although details seem to vary with the telling, town locals seem to agree that in the 1920s, Byron Daly took over the record keeping.

Daly began betting (I imagine with out-of-towners who didn't know the local tradition) that it would rain on that day. Usually, the wager was for a new hat.

Daly's son John, an attorney, was known for his soft-spoken manner and gentlemanly ways and always tipped his hat to the ladies. He took over the chores from his father and the tradition continues to this day.

A local journalist, John O'Hara, began sending stories about Rain Day to newspapers in the 1930s. Since then, such notables as Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Johnny Carson and Jay Leno have bet on the outcome of the Waynesburg weather—

and always for a hat.

Records indicate that since 1874, it has rained 112 out of 136 years in the borough of Waynesburg.

The annual Waynesburg Rain Day Festival runs from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday.

If you can't make it to the festival this year but it rains in your neighborhood, learning how to make and string polymer clay beads into a bracelet is the perfect indoor activity for you.

You will need help from an adult to bake the clay.

Supplies you will need:

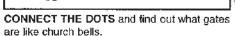
- Polymer clay in several colors.
- Fine wire, embroidery thread or elastic.
- Toothpick
- Glass baking dish.
- Plastic beads (optional)

Using package directions, heat the oven to the proper temperature.

To make the two-color twisted beads, roll clay into strands and twist them together. Roll the strands around a toothpick, then carefully remove the toothpick.

To make round beads, work the clay into a ball, then decorate with smaller pieces of clay. You can then roll the small pieces into the large ball or leave the bead three-dimensional. Make holes in the beads with a toothpick. Make sure you make the hole large enough to slide your string through.

Bake the beads as directed. String your beads onto your wire or thread and tie off. If you would like, use plastic storebought beads for spacers.





THE PYRAMID OF WORD POWER!

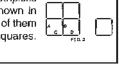


Illustrated by David Coulson



A "PICKY" LITTLE WAGER! Place 16 toothpicks on the table, forming five squares, as shown in fig. 1. Challenge your friends to move four of them. to new positions so that you will have six squares. The solution is shown in fig. 2

Answer: Tellgates.



FIND THE SEVEN WORDS PUZZLE! In the word square at the right, we've removed six of the letters to spell out the word "PLATES." See if you can replace these letters in the squares so that you will have four 3-letter words across and three 4letter words down. The time limit is 60 seconds

Answers: (Across) Sap, axe, ill, let. (Down) Sail, axie, pelt.



See if you can get "clean" to the top of our word pyramid in less than three minutes. Starting with the given word LAUNDRIES, try dropping one letter at a time as you work your way up, so that the remaining letters at each level spell out a new word. The following helpful hints are in ascending order, beginning with LAUNDRIES

- Clothes-washing businesses.
- 2. TV repeat show payment.
- 3. Brings to a sudden halt.
- 4. Old-time telephone user.
- 5. Stirred to anger. 6. Urgent, desperate.
- 7. Anger, wrath.
- 8. In reference to.
- 9. Abbreviation for electron.

Answers (from the bottom up): Laundries, residual, detaits, dialer, riled, dire, ire, re. e.

### by Samantha Weaver

- It was celebrated Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw who made the following sage observation: "The liar's punishment is not in the least that he is not believed, but that he cannot believe anyone else."
- Virginia law prohibits anyone over the age of 15 from wearing a mask in public, unless it's part of a traditional holiday costume, for work or for medical reasons.
- You might be surprised to learn that there are people who study how air quality, humidity, the hardness of the water and pollution affect people's hair. According to these researchers, the worst American cities for your tresses are Corpus Christi, Texas; Olympia, Wash.; and Pittsburgh.
- In a survey conducted by the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, it was found that twothirds of Americans believe they are smarter than the average American.
- If you happen to be traveling in India and are passing through the town of Deshnoke, you might want to check out the Karni Mata temple—but not if you have an aversion to rodents: Karni Mata is the rat goddess. Visitors can dine at the temple, but they have to watch out for the more than 20,000 rats mingling with the guests. Don't worry, though; if a rat runs across your feet, it's considered to be good luck.
- Ever wonder what the world's deadliest animal is? It's the lowly mosquito. Thanks to the diseases it spreads, it kills more humans than any other animal on the planet.
- In 2004, a record was set for the world's farthest pizza delivery when a Domino's Pizza in London delivered a vegetarian supreme pizza to Melbourne, Australia—a distance of 10,532 miles. The world record challenge was conducted as a fundraising event and brought in nearly \$50,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Thought for the Day: "Nothing is impossible for the man who doesn't have to do it himself."-A.H. Weiler

# MAGIC MAZE

# I THINK I'LL **JUST TAKE** THAT

MNROLIEBY V S ONKII EBOYWTEROLJGEBY WURIPNZPKISGTDB ZXVSTQIAOEWMCKI G E C A Y I E N W K I A U U S Q Y P N L J S D P A P F D H F (APPROPRIATE) FBLE CAYUXVLKUVUOAAS Q P N M C F K R J Q N P H E N FECBECEELFEIZTY XVURTROQPOPRUSU

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally,

Abduct Appropriate Capture

Invade Nab Occupy Pilfer

Requisition Rip off Seize

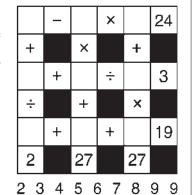
Swipe Take Usurp

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# GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only ance.

> DIFFICULTY: \*\* ★ Moderate ★★ Difficult \*\*\* GO FIGURE!



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# **MAGIC MAZE ANSWER**

**GO FIGURE ANSWER** 

# **Can cats overdose on catnip?**

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: Is it possible to give too much catnip to a cat? And, is dried catnip as potent as fresh?—Gina in Flint, Mich.

**DEAR GINA:** I've seen cats react to catnip in a variety of different ways —from tearing around the house to lounging draped across furniture—but have not read of a cat actually "overdosing" on the herb.

Nepetalactone is the chemical that produces a cat's distinct reaction to catnip. It's released when the plant is bruised, which is why you'll often see a cat rubbing against and biting fresh catnip. According to various sources, the cat's "high" is produced when it sniffs the bruised leaves or stems; eating catnip produces a sedative effect. Cats generally lose interest in catnip once they've had enough.

As to whether fresh or dried catnip is better, or equally potent, dried catnip can be just as effective, although like any dried herb, the age of the catnip and how it has been stored can affect its potency. That's one reason to look carefully at brands of dried catnip or catnip-impregnated toys before purchasing.

Pet owners can grow their own catnip on the windowsill, in full sun (out



of reach of the cat until it's strong enough to put up with a cat's devoted attention) and either present it fresh to the cat or trim the mature plant and hang it upside down to dry.

Finally, what to do if you place catnip in front of your pet and it shows no interest? Walk away for a while—it will either get interested eventually or not, but most cats can't be forced to ingest or play with catnip.

Send your question or comment to ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. For more pet carerelated advice and information, visit www.pawscorner.com.

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# Bake and share holiday cookies

t was somewhere between a Norman Rockwell painting and a Hallmark Moment. Our extended family had just gathered for Christmas last year at our cozy cabin nestled in Northern California's coastal redwood forest. The kids were busy chopping wood in the misty, foggy air, and my husband was stoking the fire in the sturdy Norwegian stove, while I arranged fresh pine and eucalyptus down the center of our family's century-old dining-room table.

Then, just as Grandma Dolly cracked the last egg for her traditional Swedish rice pudding, we heard a knock at the front door. Beaming from ear to ear, our friend from down the road stepped inside to present us with a delectable plate of his mom's homemade treats. From crunchy peanut brittle to light coconut meringue, the gift assortment was the exclamation point to a perfect afternoon.

Mixed with family tradition, culinary talent and enough sugar to satisfy any sweet tooth, cookie and candy recipes reign at holiday gatherings. Some of our best family memories are built around mounds of cookie dough, colored frosting and candy sprinkles strewn all over the counter and kitchen floor!

### Here are some fresh ideas and hints for this year's family memorymaking and baking:

- Start with a standard sugar-cookie recipe with your school-age kids. Let them practice their math and reading skills as you show them basic measuring techniques.
- Once baked and cooled, make frosting in several colors for decorating cookies. Spoon each color into a separate zipper-style plastic bag. Close and twist like a pastry bag, pushing the frosting to a bottom corner of the bag. Snip the corner with scissors to allow

# by Donna Erickson

the frosting to flow. Raisins, nuts, coconut and colored sugars make tempting additions to your cookie art.

- Hang decorated sugar cookies on branches of mini Christmas trees for holiday guests to take home. Before baking, make a hole with a drinking straw at the top of each cookie. Squeeze frosting to write on the names of guests. Thread ribbon through the holes, and hang the cookies.
- For iPad users, tech-savvy families will be inspired to try new recipes using the fun, just released "Martha Stewart Makes Cookies" app created in partnership with Callaway Digital Arts and MSLO. The inspiring "Cookie Runway" is a real hit with kids when they swipe across the screen through the 50 plus recipes. The innovative roulette-wheel recipe finder lets them pick their favorite type and flavor. I like the practical shopping lists I've sent to my iPhone, the nifty timer and the how-to videos. Preview the app at www.marthastewart.com/cookie-recipes-app.

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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# Good Housekeeping

# Holiday weight-gain myth is bunk, scientists say

The common assumption that people put on 5 pounds over the holidays has been studied and actually found to be a myth, according to scientists at Vanderbilt University. In fact, weight gain from Thanksgiving through New Year's is, on average, closer to three-quarters of a pound to 1 pound.

And while this doesn't sound as drastic, what typically happens with obesity is that people gain weight slowly and keep it on, said Vanderbilt obesity expert Roger Cone, Ph.D., professor and chairman of Molecular Physiology & Biophysics.

"It's not just overeating at holidays. We are chronically overeating and under-exercising in this country," Cone said. "And what happens then is your weight gradually creeps up."

"If we do become obese, it's because there is a minor difference between what we are consuming

# TIPS FOR HEALTHIER EATING

- Drink more water throughout meals to help feel fuller, quicker.
- Be careful with portions (one-half plate should be fruits and vegetables, one-fourth proteins and one-fourth grains.)
- Take a long walk after a meal; it is good for digestion and will make you feel better.
- Cook healthy versions of traditional recipes by using resources such as eatbetteramerica com and mypyramid.gov.
- Use whole grains instead of white for making bread, stuffing and pasta.
- Substitute applesauce for oil when making baked goods such as cookies and cakes.
- Use herbs instead of salt to add flavor to food.
- Adults should exercise 30 minutes a day, which can be divided into 10-minute segments if necessary
- Use local produce whenever possible. It tends to maintain its nutrients longer than produce that has traveled long distances.

and what we are burning," he said. "So the trick is to try to match your energy expenditure with your energy intake, to try to control your diet overall and keep it healthy, and to try to up your activity until the two are in balance."

Obesity leads to health-care costs that are 36 percent higher, on average, and a 77 percent increase in medication costs.

Liz Aleman, Healthy Children's program manager for Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, said obesity is the result of poor choices and behaviors more than genetics and metabolism, which means there is a lot a person can do to fight obesity.

Focus beyond the Thanksgiving table and holiday overeating. The struggle with obesity is yearround. (King Features Synd., Inc.)

# Team mac 'n' cheese with holiday favorites

Macaroni and cheese is, without doubt, one of America's most popular comfort foods. It's quite adaptable and can be served as a festive side to roast beef, lamb or pork, chicken or turkey. It's also the perfect partner to enjoy with that leftover holiday ham, and travels well, too, for tailgate or bring-a-dish gatherings.

Its roots here are in the South, and was first served at a White House dinner hosted by Thomas Jefferson. His cousin Mary Randolph help to popularize it with a men-

tion in her cookbook "The Virginia Housewife," published in 1824.

The macaroni dish featured here is simple to prepare using a mixture of three distinct cheeses, and has an incredible rich, creamy texture, thanks to a combination of Jarlsberg and American cheese. The fresh goat cheese adds just the right touch of delicious tangy flavor.

While a curly pasta version is pictured, you also can use classic elbow. With so many tasty possibilities, don't feel limited to the variations suggested below.

# THREE CHEESE MACARONI

- 2 cups (8 ounces) elbow macaroni or other curly pasta
- 1/2 stick butter, divided
- 1/3 cup unseasoned fine dry breadcrumbs
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 3 cups milk
- 1 4-ounce log soft Chevrai (unripened goat cheese)
- 2 cups coarsely shredded Jarlsberg cheese
- 1 cup diced American cheese
- 1. Preheat oven to 350 F. Butter a 2-quart round oven-

proof casserole dish. Cook pasta until al dente; transfer to colander and drain.

2. In same pasta pot over very low heat, melt butter; remove from heat. Measure off 2 tablespoons butter and, in small bowl, combine with breadcrumbs and paprika. Set aside.

3. Return pot to heat. Blend in flour and simmer until bubbly (1 minute). Gradually whisk in milk, goat cheese and shredded Jarlsberg. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly

> until mixture is creamy-smooth and thickens slightly. Return pasta to pot and toss until coated: mix in diced cheese.

4. Transfer to prepared casserole dish and sprinkle with buttered breadcrumbs. If desired, sprinkle with additional paprika. Bake 30 minutes or until center is bubbly-hot and crumbs are golden. Serves 8 to 10.

# **VARIATIONS**

When combining pasta with cheese sauce, fold in:

- 2 cups cooked small shrimp or shredded cooked chicken (or 1 can of tuna) with 1 cup frozen petite peas.
- 2 cups small cubes of chorizo, kielbasa or ham, with 1 cup chopped cherry tomatoes. Instead of buttered breadcrumb topping, use crushed, lightly

salted tortilla chips.

- 2 cups small broccoli florets and 1 cup each (cooked, well drained) lean, chopped beef and chopped mushrooms.
- 2 cups cooked crumbled bacon or prosciutto and 1/4 cup fig jam.

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# COLLECTING

# **Sewing machine**

By LARRY COX

Q: I have a Singer sewing machine that appears to be one of the first factory models made. I was once offered \$400 for it when I took it in for minor repairs. Can you tell me what's it is worth, and where I can sell it if I choose?—Loraine, Brooklyn, N.Y.

**A:** I examined the pictures you sent and suspect your sewing machine was made during the early years of the past century. It has obvious wear and might retail for about \$200. I was at an auction several months ago and saw a Singer Model No. 9W1, circa 1905, encased in a tiger oak cabinet with all its attachments sell for \$350.

Q: I have a Staffordshire ceramic figurine of a spaniel dog that I would like to have appraised. Can you help me?—Bill, Albuquerque, N.M.

A: First, let's review a little information about Staffordshire pottery. The company was founded in England's Staffordshire district during the 17th century and continues with its production work to the present. The company gained an international reputation for its ornamental pieces. The height of production occurred during the Victorian-era. Many of the earlier pieces of Staffordshire are considered folk art.

To determine the value of your ceramic spaniel, you should hire the services of a professional appraiser. Two

established appraisers in Albuquerque are Suzanne Staley, 505-738-1118; and Phyllis Thunborg, 505-898-0863. You can find appraisers listed in the business pages of the phone book of most cities. Make certain that the appraiser you contact appraises personal property, not real estate.

Q: I have three of my childhood storybooks from the early 1950s. They are "Bugs Bunny Keeps a Promise," "Bill's Birthday Surprise" and "Buster's Bulldozer." Are they worth keeping?—Tom, Arapahoe County, Colo.

A: Perhaps for sentimental reasons, but the three you listed are worth only about \$10 each, if in mint condition.

Q: I have a book entitled "North American Indian Life" by Edward S. Curtis with an introduction by A.D. Coleman and T.C. McLuchan. Can you help me determine its value?— Leonard, Clifton Heights, Pa.

A: Your book, which was published in 1972 by Promontory Press, retails in used bookshops for about \$25.

Write to Larry Cox in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send email to questionsforcox@aol.com. Due to the large volume of mail he receives, Mr. Cox is unable to personally answer all reader questions. Do not send any materials requiring return mail.

# Using linseed oil to preserve tools



By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA

Q: I've heard mixed information about using linseed oil to preserve tools over the winter. Do you place it on the cutting blades of garden tools, or only on the handles? Is there an alternative protectant for garden and work tools?—John F., Providence,

A: Linseed oil isn't a good protectant for the metal parts of tools. The reason is that it creates a somewhat gummy, sticky coat that may be hard to clean off come springtime. It often is used to coat and protect wooden handles, but like most preservative products, linseed oil has its benefits and its drawbacks.

Macaroni and cheese is, without doubt, one of

America's most popular comfort foods.

First, many people don't know that there are two kinds of linseed oil available: raw and boiled. Raw linseed oil is extracted directly from flax seeds, with no additives of any kind. It's straightup linseed oil and nothing else. The raw oil dries extremely slowly, over several weeks, and so it develops a kind of gummy or sticky texture that picking up a hammer.

Boiled linseed oil is not actually boiled. It has several ingredients added that quicken drying time and prevent mildew from setting in. If you want to coat wooden tool handles with linseed oil to preserve them, this is the product

The website NaturalHandyman. com has a pretty detailed article available on various uses for raw and boiled linseed oil.

A note of caution when using linseed oil: After use, wash any rags that are soaked with the oil in soap and water immediately, or store the rags in a pail of water that is covered. Linseed oil tends to heat up as it dries (through

ou may not want to experience when a process called oxidation), and while your home-improvement store. Pick that isn't a problem for a tool handle with a light coat of boiled oil on it, it can be a problem if a pile of oil-soaked rags are sitting in a corner of your garage drying out. For the same reason, you'll also want to air-dry the washedout rags rather than placing them in the clothes dryer. Spontaneous combustion is only fun in science class.

Before you get completely turned off toward linseed oil, keep in mind that safety is a priority when working with any type of solvent or chemical, and review the warnings on the back of all the products you use.

Which leads into alternatives to linseed oil. You'll find several kinds of wood preservatives on the shelf at lando, FL 32853-6475.

a protectant that is specifically formulated for wooden tool handles. It needs to quickly penetrate the wood, not leave a residue on the surface and ideally provide some protection from the sun as well.

**HOME TIP:** To prevent glue from sticking to a painted or varnished surface, brush a thin coat of raw linseed oil onto the surface first. Once the gluing project is done, the oil can be wiped away.

Send your questions or comments to ask@thisisahammer.com, or write This Is a Hammer, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Or**20** SATURDAY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26-27, 2011 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Life & Style

# JK Rowling: UK press left me feeling under siege

**LONDON** (AP)—Writer J.K. Rowling and actress Sienna Miller gave a London courtroom a vivid picture on Thursday of the anxiety, anger and fear produced by living in the glare of Britain's tabloid media, describing how press intrusion made them feel like prisoners in their own homes.

The creator of boy wizard Harry Potter told Britain's media ethics inquiry that having journalists camped on her doorstep was "like being under siege and like being a hostage." Miller said years of car chases, midnight pursuits and intimate revelations had left her feeling violated, paranoid and anxious.

"The attitude seems to be absolutely cavalier," Rowling said. "You're famous, you're asking for it."

The pair were among a diverse cast of witnesses—Hollywood star Hugh Grant, a former soccer player, a former aide to supermodel Elle Macpherson and the parents of missing and murdered children—who have described how becoming the focus of Britain's tabloid press wreaked havoc on their lives.

Rowling said she was completely unprepared for the media attention she began to receive when her first book, "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone," became a sensation.

The seven Potter books have sold more than 450 million copies, spawned a hit movie series and propelled Rowling from struggling single mother to one of Britain's richest people.

"When you become wellknown ... no one gives you a guidebook," she said.

Prime Minister David Cameron set up the inquiry amid a still-unfolding scandal over illegal eavesdropping by the News of the World tabloid. Owner Rupert Murdoch closed down the newspaper in July after evidence emerged that it had illegally accessed the mobile phone voice mails of celebrities, politicians and even crime victims in its search of scoops.

More than a dozen News of the World journalists and editors have been arrested, and the scandal has also claimed the jobs of two top London police officers, Cameron's media adviser and several senior Murdoch executives.

It has also set off national soul-searching about the balance between press freedom and individual privacy.

Rowling, 46, said media interest in her began shortly after the publication of her first novel in 1997 and soon escalated, with photographers and reporters frequently stationed outside her home. She eventually moved after stories and photographs revealed the location of her house.

"I can't put an invisibility cloaking device over myself or my house, nor would I want to," Rowling said. But, she added, "it feels threatening to have people watching you."

Rowling said she had always tried to keep her three children out of the media glare, and was outraged when her eldest daughter came home from primary school with a letter from a journalist in her backpack.

"I felt such a sense of invasion," Rowling said. "It's very difficult to say how angry I felt that my 5-year-old daughter's school was no longer a place of complete security from journalists."

By the time her younger children were born in 2003 and 2005, Rowling said, the scrutiny was "like being under siege and like being a hostage.'

She also described how, early on in their relationship, her now-husband Neil Murray gave personal details over the phone to a reporter who was pretending to be a tax official. An article about him duly appeared in a tabloid paper.

"That was a not-very-nice introduction to being involved with someone famous," Rowl-

Rowling told the inquiry she had gone to court or to Britain's

press watchdog more than 50 times over pictures of her children or false stories, which included a claim by the Daily Express that unpleasant fictional wizard Gilderoy Lockhart had been based on her first husband.

Before the final Potter book appeared in 2007, a reporter even phoned the head teacher of her daughter's school, falsely claiming the child had revealed that Harry Potter died at the end, in an apparent bid to learn secrets of the plot.

Miller, who became a tabloid staple when she dated fellow actor Jude Law, said the constant scrutiny left her feeling "very violated and very paranoid and anxious, constantly."

"I felt like I was living in some

"I would often find myself, at in their hands made that legal."

the inquiry that a stream of personal stories about her in the tabloids led her to accuse friends and family of leaking information to the media. In fact, her cell phone

sort of video game," she said.

"For a number of years I was relentlessly pursued by 10 to 15 men, almost daily," she said. "Spat at, verbally abused.

the age of 21, at midnight, running down a dark street on my own with 10 men chasing me. And the fact they had cameras

The 29-year-old actress told voice mails had been hacked by



gives evidence about media intrusion during a media ethics inquiry in London, Thursday, Nov. 24, 2011.

the News of the World.

Miller, the star of "Laver Cake" and "Alfie," was one of the first celebrities to take the Murdoch tabloid to court over illegal eavesdropping. In May, the newspaper agreed to pay her 100,000 pounds (\$160,000) to settle claims her phone had been hacked.

The newspaper's parent company now faces dozens of lawsuits from alleged hacking victims.

Also testifying Thursday was former Formula One boss Max Mosley, who has campaigned for a privacy law since his interest in sadomasochistic sex was exposed in the News of the World.

Mosley successfully sued the News of the World over a 2008 story headlined "Formula One boss has sick Nazi orgy with five hookers." Mosley has acknowledged the orgy, but argued that the story—obtained with a hidden camera-was an "outrageous" invasion of privacy. He said the Nazi allegation was damaging and "completely untrue."

Mosley said he has had stories about the incident removed from

193 websites around the world, and is currently taking legal action "in 22 or 23 different countries," including proceedings against search engine Google in France and Germany.

"Invasion of privacy is worse than burglary," Mosley said. "Because if somebody burgles your house ... you can replace the things that have been taken."

High-profile witnesses still to come include CNN celebrity interviewer Piers Morgan, who has denied using phone hacking while he was editor of the Daily Mirror newspaper.

The inquiry, led by Judge Brian Leveson, plans to issue a report next year and could recommend major changes to Britain's system of media self regulation.

Rowling said that she supported freedom the press, but that a new body was needed to replace the "toothless" Press Complaints Commission.

"I can't pretend that I have a magical answer," she said. "No Harry Potter joke intended."

# Ruth Stone, award-winning poet, dies in Vt. at 96

Ruth Stone, an award-winning poet for whom tragedy halted, then inspired a career that started in middle age and thrived late in life as her sharp insights into love, death and nature received ever-growing acclaim, has died

Stone, who for decades lived in a farmhouse in Goshen, died Nov. 19 of natural causes at her home in Ripton, her daughter Phoebe Stone said Thursday. She was surrounded by her daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Widowed in her 40s and little known for years after, Ruth Stone became one of the country's most honored poets in her 80s and 90s, winning the National Book Award in 2002 for "In the Next Galaxy" and being named a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2009 for "What Love Comes To." She received nu-

merous other citations, including a National Book Critics Circle award, two Guggenheims and a Whiting Award.

She was born Ruth Perkins in 1915, the daughter of printer and part-time drummer Roger Perkins. A native of Roanoke, Va., who spent much of her childhood in Indianapolis, Ruth girl for whom poetry was almost literally mother's milk; her mother would recite Tennyson while nursing her. A beloved aunt, Aunt Harriette, worked with young Ruth on poetry and illustrations and was later immortalized, with awe and affection, in the poem "How to Catch Aunt Harriette.'

By age 19, Stone was married and had moved to Urbana, Ill., studying at the University of Illinois. There, she met Walter Stone, a graduate student and poet who became the love of her life, well after his ended. "You, a young poet working/in



In this image made from television, "Harry Potter" author J.K. Rowling, who has campaigned to keep her children out of the media glare, gives evidence about media intrusion during a media ethics inquiry in London, Thursday, Nov. 24, 2011.

the steel mills; me, married, to a dull chemical engineer," she wrote of their early, adulterous courtship, in the poem "Coffee and Sweet Rolls."

She divorced her first husband, married Stone and had two daughters (she also had a daughter from her first marriage). By 1959, he was on the faculty at Vassar and both were set to publish books. But on a sabbatical in England, Walter Stone hung himself, at age 42, a or really understood.

In the poem "Turn Your Eyes Away," she remembered seeing his body, "on the door of a rented room/like an overcoat/ like a bathrobe/ hung from a hook." He would recur, ghostlike, in poem after poem. "Actually the widow thinks/he may be/in another country in disguise," she writes in "All Time is Past Time." In "The Widow's Song," she wonders "If he saw her now/would he marry her?/ The widow pinches her fat/on her abdomen.

Her first collection, "In an Iridescent Time," came out in

1959. But Stone, depressed and raising three children alone, moving around the country to wherever she could find a teaching job, didn't publish her next book, "Topography and Other Poems," until 1971. Another decade-long gap preceded her 1986 release "American Milk."

Her life stabilized in 1990 of English and creative writing at the State University of New York in Binghamton. Most of her published work, including "American Milk," "The Solution" and "Simplicity," came

out after she turned 70. Her poems were brief, her curiosity boundless, her verse a cataloguing of what she called "that vast/confused library, the female mind." She considered the bottling of milk; her grandmother's hair, "pulled back to a bun"; the random thoughts while hanging laundry (Einstein's mustache, the eyesight of ants).

"I think my work is a natural

response to my life," she once said. "What I see and feel changes like a prism, moment to moment; a poem holds and illuminates. It is a small drama. I think, too, my poems are a release, a laughing at the ridiculous and songs of mourning, celebrating marriage and loss, all the sad baggage of our lives. It is so overwhelming, so complex.'

Aging and death were steady companions-confronted, lamented and sometimes kidded like in "Storage," in which her "old" brain reminds her not to weep for what was lost: "Listen—I have it all on video/at half the price," the poet is warned.

Stone was not pious—"I am not one/who God can hope to save by dying twice"—but she worshipped the world and counted its blessings. In "Yes, Think," she imagines a caterpillar pitying its tiny place in the universe and "getting even smaller." Nature herself smiles and responds:

"You are a lovely link in the great chain of being Think how lucky it is to be born.'

# Enthused by 3–D, Scorsese sees in a new dimension

AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Thelma Schoonmaker, Martin Scorsese's longtime editor, warmly greets a reporter outside their Manhattan offices ahead of a screening of Scorsese's new 3-D fairy tale, "Hugo."

Around the corner is Schoonmaker's editing bay, where she and Scorsese keep Turner Classic Movies running silently on a nearby screen while they work. Inside is a screening room where Scorsese often runs old films, familiar classics and newfound gems. At one time, they gathered with Elia Kazan every Saturday to watch one of his films. Large movie posters dot the halls: "The Third Man," "Black Narcissus." Directions to the bathroom are given as "across from Marlon Brando."

It is, in short, a cinephile's dream—a description that also could apply to the magical "Hugo." The film, adapted from Brian Selznick's award-winning illustrated book "The Invention of Hugo Cabret," is about a 12year-old orphan, Hugo (Asa Butterfield), who lives in a 1930 Paris train station. It also isas are so many of Scorsese's films—a movie about movies.

It captures young Hugo's ecstatic discovery of cinema, echoing Scorsese's own experience as an asthmatic child in New York's Little Italy. Hugo's adventures ultimately lead him to the turn-of-the-century French filmmaker George Melies (Ben Kingsley), a special effects pioneer and early believer in the wonder of movies.



In this image released by Paramount Pictures, actors Emily Mortimer, left, and Asa Butterfield listen to director Martin Scorsese on the set of "Hugo." The film, adapted from Brian Selznick's award-winning illustrated book "The Invention of Hugo Cabret," is about a 12-year-old orphan who lives in a 1930 Paris train station.

Just as Scorsese is looking back through film history, however, he also is looking ahead: "Hugo" is his first 3-D film. For a medium that has undergone a lot of criticism and doubt since James Cameron's groundbreaking "Avatar," Scorsese's enthusiastic embrace of 3-D does a lot for its credibility.

"It was a big issue when Fellini did his first color film, when He would much rather discuss a Bergman did his first color film, when Antonioni did 'Red Desert," recalled Scorsese in a recent interview and trip through the technological history of movies. "Everybody wanted to see how they did color."

2011 is shaping up to be the year many notable directors took up 3-D: Werner Herzog ("Cave of Forgotten Dreams"), Francis Ford Coppola ("Twixt"), Wim Wenders ("Pina") and Steven Spielberg ("The Adventures of Tintin"). But no one's entry to 3-D has quite the same import as that of Scorsese, long held as America's best.

An inevitable side-effect of even a slight brush with Scorsese is that your Netflix queue doubles in length. His encyclopedic knowledge of film constantly spawns detailed analysis: few thousand other films than his own. There are old favorites that frequently come up-Michael Powell, Max Ophuls, Jean Renoir-and various dips into the rabbit hole.

Asked what films he shows his 12-year-old daughter (who helped inspire him to make "Hugo"), Scorsese lists more than 20 films, a virtual film school for adolescence.

Scorsese grew up in another

age of 3-D films, and he consulted many of those from the 1950s: "House of Wax," "Kiss Me Kate," "Dial M for Murder." To him, seeing in depth is natural, "because we live with depth."

"There's great potential for it," the director says of 3-D. "It's a natural progression, especially with the fact that cinema is all around us. It's not only in a theater. Obviously, the next thing you go to is holograms. You could have 'West Side Story' with the dancers dancing up the aisles, or a wonderful actor doing 'Hamlet."

To Scorsese, ultimately it is part of film evolution. He recalls the arrival of sound, the early distrust for color and the ushering in of wider screens with CinemaScope.

"The French critics—Truffaut, Godard, all of them-embraced every new technological advance from Hollywood as part of cinema: color, sound, ultimately, and wide-screen," says Scorsese. "They embraced wide-screen and I'm sure thev would have done 3-D."

In "Hugo," the depth of the images comes through fullest in the expansive interior of the full-size train station, built on a soundstage in England's Shepperton Studios.

"Marty was pushing the boundaries all the time, saying, 'Let's go further, let's go further," says Schoonmaker, who has edited most of Scorsese's films since "Raging Bull." "It takes a lot of care and time to set up a 3-D shot properly and he was really committed to that. ... I don't mean the sensational aspects of 3-D, but the way the camera embraces the actors is what he wanted."

# Young teen fearful of future has lots of time on her side

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I'm 14 and I'm terrified that I won't know what to do once I'm in college and have to decide on a long-term job. I have a lot of interests, but none that would lead me toward a career. My teachers and the books I read say I should find my passion and follow it for the rest of my life. My problem is, I don't have a standout passion I love intensely.



I have an amazing family who would with the same and the same and the same and the same are same as the same are same are same as the same are same support me in any direction I choose, but I don't know what that would be. I get good grades and work hard, and I believe I could achieve anything I choose. The problem is, I don't know what I want to do.

I know I'm young, but I worry all the time about my future and being stuck in a job I hate. I'm involved in lots of activities—student government, piano lessons, sports, service clubs and more—and I enjoy all of them. But none of them inspire a burning passion. Do you have any suggestions on how to find my passion?

NEEDS A DIRECTION, ATLANTA

DEAR NEEDS A DIRECTION: Yes. And the first one is to relax and quit worrying about not having found your "passion" at 14. This isn't the Middle Ages, when young people would apprentice themselves to a guild in which they would spend the rest of their lives. You are intelligent and only beginning to explore your various talents.

You may excel in several different areas, which is good, because workers no longer necessarily stay in one kind of job for a lifetime. People are usually good at the things they enjoy, so slow down. Give yourself time to see where you excel. I am positive that if you do, you'll find your passion(s) in a field you enjoy.

**DEAR ABBY**: I have been with my husband for more than 10 years. It has been rocky over the past few years, and I recently had an affair with a married man. I have fallen madly in love with him, and every night I dream about being with him instead of with my husband. We're both in unhappy marriages and both

He's worried that if he gets divorced he won't be able to see his kids as often as he wants. Should I forget him and try to fall back in love with my husband?

Everyone I talk to about this says my lover has been what I needed to recognize that I wasn't happy in my marriage and that I deserve better. I know I deserve better because I worshipped the ground my husband walked on for many years and got treated like crud. What do I do?

DOWNTRODDEN WIFE IN OKLAHOMA.

DEAR DOWNTRODDEN: Since you're collecting advice, I don't mind throwing in my two-cents' worth.

Your lover doesn't appear eager to leave his family, so do the best thing for both of you and end the affair. As to whether you should try to fall back in love with a man who "treated you like crud," sometimes divorce can be therapeutic. And from the description you gave me of your marriage, you could benefit from seeking one and swearing off men

**DEAR ABBY**: Four years ago my best friend's mother lost her husband after a battle with cancer. She joined a grief support group and met a man who had lost his wife to cancer, too. Love blossomed and they will be married soon. Everyone is thrilled they have found each other.

Along with a wedding gift, would it be appropriate to make a donation to a cancer charity in memory of their deceased spouses? I would like to honor the struggle that led the couple to each other, but don't want to offend. What do you think?

DEVOTED FRIEND IN KENTUCKY

DEAR DEVOTED FRIEND: I think you have come up with a beautiful idea that will be deeply appreciated, and vou should do it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby-Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

# Oscar-winning director starts film on I Lech Walesa

WARSAW, Poland (AP)— Oscar winner Andrzej Wajda said Thursday that his new film on former Polish president and Solidarity founder Lech Walesa will be his greatest challenge in 55 years as a director.

"This will be the most difficult movie I have made in my life." Wajda, 85, told a news conference. "I don't want to, but I have to," he said, quoting a line Walesa coined and often used while president in the early 1990s.

Wajda—the director of "The Promised Land" and "Katyn" begins shooting "Walesa" on Dec. 1 in the Baltic port city of authorities will be woven into Gdansk, where in 1980 then-

unemployed electrician Walesa seized the reigns of a shipyard wage protest and turned it into a nationwide Solidarity movement that helped lead to the downfall of communism a decade later.

Wajda described Walesa as a hero who had a "true victory" in leading Poland out of decades of Moscow-imposed communism and into sovereignty, without any lives being lost.

The director said documentary footage from the Walesa-led strike in the Gdansk shipyard and the ensuing successful talks with communist the movie that is to debut in

Poland in the fall of 2012.

Janusz Glowacki-an off-Broadway Polish playwrighthas written the screenplay. Glowacki said the aim of his script is to portray Walesa as a "fascinating person," not build a monument to him.

"I tried to put together things heroic with funny things," Glowacki said, adding that he wanted to show Walesa as a "giant who stumbles, falls but then rises."

Polish actors Robert Wieckiewicz and Agnieszka Grochowska will play the roles of Walesa and his wife, Danuta.

The movie will span the pe-

riod between the worker street protests of 1970, in which Walesa took part, to his speech before the U.S. Congress in the fall of 1989, shortly after the end of communism in Poland and a year before he became the first popularly elected president.

Walesa won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1983 for his work in leading Poland towards freedom. His wife, Danuta, traveled to collect it because Walesa feared that the communist authorities would not let him return if he left the country.

Wajda received a lifetime achievement Academy Award in 2000.

# SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

# Idaho filmmaker's project about man cleared by DNA

BOISE, Idaho (AP)—An Idaho-based filmmaker hopes to raise \$25,000 for a documentary about the first person freed from death row by DNA evidence. The Idaho Statesman reports Boise filmmaker Gregory Bayne recently launched a fundraising campaign online. He is seeking pledges of at least \$25,000 by Dec. 5 for the production of the film about Kirk Bloodsworth, who spent nine years in prison before a 1993 DNA test overturned his conviction. Bloodsworth had been sentenced to die based on

eyewitness testimony for a 1984 rape and murder. As of Wednesday, nearly \$7,000 had been pledged toward the production of Bayne's documentary about Bloodsworth. The film started development in April and is a sponsored project of the nonprofit Independent Filmmaker Project in New York.

# Kazakh leader is made hero of allegorical play

BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan (AP)—On stage, the leader of the nation treks into a nighttime magical forest and begins talking to the trees, which turn into his opponents. The

dent Nursultan Nazarbayev may sound like biting political satire, but the intent is just the opposite. "Deep Roots," which is debuting Thursday in the capital Astana, is the latest mythologization of the man who has run the sprawling Central Asian country since its independence from the Soviet Union two decades ago. Nazarbayev already has been heralded this year in a book of illustrated children's fables and in a glowing movie depicting his early life in a shepherd's family. In Almaty, a statue of Nazarbayev stands in a park named after him.

premise of a new play about Kazakh Presi-

# **Pastimes**

# Calvin and Hobbes

# I JUST READ THIS GREAT SCIENCE FICTION IT'S ABOUT HOW MACHINES AND TURN THEM INTO ZOMBIE SLAVES! STORY

# By Bill Waterson

# **Garfield**®











By Glenn McCoy

# Adam@home

PO YOU BURP

WHEN YOU SLEEP?

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU I BET YOU'D HAVE TO. SAME TIME?



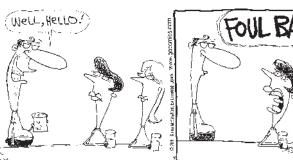
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Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Peter** Facinelli, 38; Garcelle Beauvais, 45; Tina Turner, 72: Rich Little, 73.

Happy Birthday: Review what you've done in the past and adapt what you can to fit the changing world around you. Action will be required on your part to make the most of what you have to offer. Opportunities will develop based on what you've done in the past. Hard work will pay off. Your numbers are 3, 6, 13, 21, 25, 34, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Let your head rule your heart, no matter what you are dealing with. It's vital that you trust your own judgment. You need to make financial adjustments that will improve your current lifestyle. A move will do you good. **QQQQQ** 

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Strive for perfection. Do whatever it takes to reach your goals. Uncover the facts and what it will cost to do the things that will help you get ahead. Networking or socializing will lead to new friendships or business associates.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Take hold of whatever situation you face. Don't let disgruntled patrons get you down. It's the end result that will speak volumes about who you are and what you can do. Put your faith in you and you will not be disappointed.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll be in a tug-of-war that requires you to make an untimely but necessary change. Don't lament over what's already happened when it's vital that you do the right thing now. An honest assessment will get you the help you need. •••

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Excess is the enemy. You can have fun without overdoing, overspending and overindulging. Let others pay for a change, or look for entertainment that is less costly, but still engaging.

Activity, challenge and change will lift your spirits.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Lean toward keeping the peace. It will be easy to upset the applecart when dealing with friends, family or your lover, but if you are affectionate instead of critical, you will get far better results and enjoyment out of your day. 🗪

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll thrive on change and interacting with people who can offer you good conversation and a challenging but fun-filled encounter. Love is in the stars, and whether you are single or not, you can enjoy the company of someone special.

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): A lot will depend on what you have done in the past. Don't let a partnership dispute ruin the possibilities that exist. Look at your options and be willing to bend as much as everyone you are dealing with. Equality will save the day. OOO

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Stop thinking about what needs to be

done, and start doing it. It's important to recognize what's wrong and fix it. Your personal and emotional well-being depends on making the right choice for you, whether others agree with you or not. 🛇 🛇 🗘

# THE LAST WORD

IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Size up your situation and put your cards on the table. If someone or something is costing you too much money, address the situation with a workable arrangement, or cut your losses and move on. Forward thinking is required. 🛇 😂 😂

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can make a decision about your future direction. Consider what you want to do and look into what it will take to reach your goals. Volunteering your time will lead to interesting new connections that will inspire you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't let your emotions get in the way of a good decision. A personal relationship must be protected. Don't let anyone meddle in your affairs or lead you down the wrong path. Anger will not bring results, but a positive response will. **33** Birthday Baby: You have charisma and back-

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

bone. You seek knowledge and leadership.

Difficulty Level ★★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

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Difficulty Level \*\*\*

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### wonderword, **OUELLET**

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftower letters

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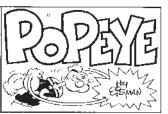
Differences: 1. Purse is different. 2. Shocs are black. 3. Dooknob is different. 4. Puddle is missing. 5. Shaving cup is different. 6. Watch is gone.

# Wishing & Walle

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HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the up-per left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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They'll Do It Every Time











THOM PHYLLIS W.,









# Super Crossword

# SHOCK TREATMENT

93 Stack

role 96 Splinter

group 98 Hold the

104 Hospital

deed 99 Safety — 103 "— generis"

worker 106 Fast way to

the UK 109 Lodger

110 Lincoln or

setting 113 Learn fast?

Lyman 112 Betting

42 - Paulo,

Brazil

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43 Sally

45 Both:

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49 Humble

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21 Run the show 22 Five iron 23 Electrician's favorite

26 Shorthand inventor 27 Periwinkle,

e.g. 28 Primeval upheaval 29 See 14 Down

31 Mil. policy 32 Lassie's mother 34 Puzzled

37 Word with song or dive 38 Question for a tardy

electrician? 44 Figure 46 Nice time of year 47 Genesis

name 48 Wordy Webster 50 Eloquent

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101 Loretta of "M\*A\*S\*H"

DOWN

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songs 88 Moistens 91 Pride papa 92 Lot size

114 End product =" 115 Cockamamie 63 Donizetti's "L'elisir d'-64 Got a galley 116 Less

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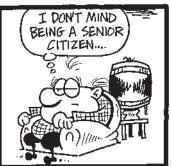
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The Spats







# ASSIFIED A

# **CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES**

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

# **CLASSIFIED LINER ADS**

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS		СОМВО
	(PRINT)	(PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
<ul> <li>3-Liner with picture</li> </ul>	\$24	\$42
<ul> <li>5-Liner with picture</li> </ul>	\$36	\$57

# **ADVERTISING DEADLINE**

### **Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

■ All ads place d Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

# **CANCELLATION**

# **Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

# **REFUNDS**

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

# **CHECK YOUR ADS**

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Job Vacancy Announcement Saipan Divers

### (1) Diving Instructor

with 2-5 years experience, salary \$1200 per month, know how to speak English and Japanese, with PADI instructor license. Please email resume at info@chuladive.com

(1) TEACHER

Min. of 2yrs experience, 4yrs college degree, provide own car,

SASAMO USA CORPORATION

Job Vacancy Announcement

Send resume to sylviacnmi@gmail.com

# **Temporary National Soccer Coach**

2/01/12 -11/30/12

Saipan. Coach national soccer players in the fundamentals of soccer. Demonstrate techniques and methods of participation and prepare the team for international competitions. May evaluate athletes' strengths and weaknesses as possible recruits or to improve the athletes' technique to prepare them for competition. Plan, organize, and conduct practice sessions. Provide training direction, encouragement, and motivation in order to prepare athletes for games, competitive events, and/or tours. Identify and recruit potential athletes. Plan and direct physical conditioning programs that will enable athletes to achieve maximum performance. Adjust coaching techniques, based on the strengths and weaknesses of athletes. Keep records of athlete, team and opposing team performance. Instruct individuals or groups in sports rules, game strategies, and performance principles, such as specific ways of moving the body, hands, or feet to achieve desired results. Analyze the strengths and weaknesses of opposing teams to develop game strategies. Bachelor's degree in Sports Science, Physical Education or related major plus 48 months of experience in the job offered. Resume must reflect the experience required and references will be verified. No OJT provided. \$5,000/month. Includes room, use of car, health insurance, and round trip transportation to-from Saipan. 40 hours/week. Mon to Fri from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Send résumé reflecting all requirements to: Northern Mariana Islands Football Association, Attn: Edward Salas, PMB 338, PO Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950. Ph/fax 670-235-0173. esalas@nmifa.com

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09 Toyota Corolla, Mil. 32,500. Excellent Condition. Price \$11,200. Pls Call 287-7676

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Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

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> WHATZIT Solution: All is fair in love and war





# Ravens beat 49ers in duel of Harbaughs, 16-6



(AP)—John Harbaugh could have gloated. He could have bragged.

Instead, the Baltimore Ravens coach played the role of gracious big brother after he bested Jim Harbaugh and the San Francisco 49ers 16-6 Thursday night in the first NFL game featuring brothers as opposing head coaches.

The Ravens (8-3) tied a franchise record with nine sacks to end San Francisco's eight-game winning streak.

"To the 49ers and to my brother, I can't tell you enough how proud I am of him and the job he's done building that football team," John said of Jim, a rookie NFL coach. "That's a football team. The way they're built, it's pretty hard to figure out a way to beat them."

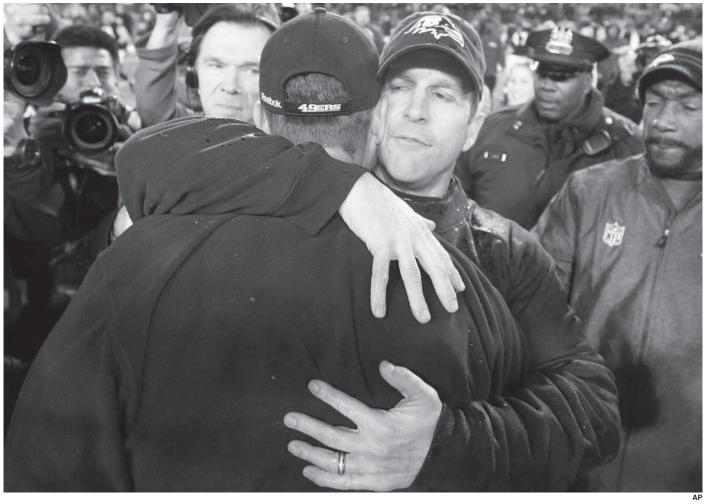
John, 49, and Jim, 47, grew up dueling each other in all sorts of games. This, however, was the first time their sibling rivalry was displayed on a national stage.

During the final minute, John got a Gatorade bath from his players—twice. After the game ended, the brothers hugged at midfield.

"There's a saying that says, 'As iron sharpens iron, so does one man sharpen another," Jim said. "And I have to say my brother John is the sharpest iron I've ever encountered in my life."

The Ravens chased, hindered and battered 49ers quarterback Alex Smith for much of the night despite playing without middle linebacker Ray Lewis, the team's leading tackler and spiritual leader. Lewis was inactive for a second straight game with a foot injury.

Smith completed 15 of 24 passes for 140 yards and an interception, and San Francisco (9-2) was held without a touchdown for the first time this season. Smith never could get into



Baltimore Ravens head coach John Harbaugh, foreground, hugs his brother, San Francisco 49ers head coach Jim Harbaugh, after their NFL football game in Baltimore on Thursday, Nov. 24, 2011.

a rhythm against an aggressive my brother, this is the Ravens defense that rarely let him set up in the pocket.

"It's tough to get ready for a defense like that in a short week. They do so many things," he said. "They're a great front. At home with the crowd noise, they were teeing off."

Terrell Suggs had three sacks for first-place Baltimore, which moved a half-game ahead of the Pittsburgh Steelers in the AFC

"That's always the game plan, to get after the quarterback, but I think the No. 1 game plan was to win the Harbaugh Bowl," Suggs said. "Coach tried to downplay it—act like it's not me against vs. the 49ers and let's get win No. 8 and make sure our destiny is in our own hands—but it was really important to him. We as a team went out there and really wanted to win for him."

Baltimore broke a 6-6 tie with a 76-yard, 16-play drive that lasted more than 7 1/2 minutes and ended with an 8-yard touchdown pass from Joe Flacco to tight end Dennis Pitta with 14:56 left. Flacco went 4 for 4 for 34 yards and a touchdown on third down during the drive.

"When you have that kind of game plan—your line being so efficient on third downs—you have to come through," Flacco said.

Billy Cundiff wrapped up the scoring with his third field goal, a 39-yarder with 4:16 remaining.

In a game dominated by both defenses, Flacco finished 15 for 23 for 161 yards and Ray Rice ran for 59 yards on 21 carries.

The 49ers began the third quarter with a 13-play drive that lasted 7 1/2 minutes and produced a 52-yard field goal by David Akers for a 6-6 tie. The key play was an 18-yard completion from Smith to Michael Crabtree on a third-and-17 from the San Francisco 26.

The Ravens responded with their lone touchdown drive of the game.

Baltimore sacked Smith four

times in the first half and picked off a pass in taking a 6-3 lead.

The Ravens took the opening kickoff and moved 55 yards—38 of them on a pair of Flacco-to-Anquan Boldin completionsbefore Cundiff kicked a 39-yard field goal.

Late in the first quarter, a 20yard completion from Smith to tight end Vernon Davis set up a 45-yard field goal by Akers.

The 49ers blew a chance to take the lead when Frank Gore was penalized for a chop block on a 75-yard touchdown pass from Smith to Ted Ginn, who got behind Cary Williams deep down the middle.

Neither team had much luck

moving the ball until San Francisco's Tarell Brown was called for pass interference on a long pass to Torrey Smith. The 50yard penalty put the ball at the 15, and although the Ravens turned it into a first-and-goal at the 4, they had to settle for a 23yard field goal with 2:51 left in

### Packers 27, Lions 15

In Detroit, Aaron Rodgers threw two touchdown passes as the Green Bay Packers built a big lead in the third quarter, taking advantage of Ndamukong Suh's ejection and beating the Detroit Lions 27-15 on Thursday.

The defending champion Packers (11-0) have won 17 straight, including the playoffs. They passed what was expected to be one of their toughest tests toward joining the 2007 New England Patriots as the NFL's only teams to have 16-0 regular seasons.

Detroit (7-4) has lost a franchise-record eight straight on Thanksgiving and added to its misery in ugly fashion. Suh was tossed for stepping on Evan Dietrich-Smith's arm, and Matthew Stafford threw three interceptions. The Packers turned Stafford's interceptions into two TDs and a field goal.

# **Cowboys 20, Dolphins 19**

In Arlington, Texas, Tony Romo threw two touchdown passes to Laurent Robinson, and Dan Bailey made a 28yard field goal as time expired to lift Dallas past Miami.

Dallas (7-4) won its fourth straight and grabbed sole possession of first place in the NFC East, a half-game ahead of the New York Giants.

Miami (3-8) had won three straight. The Dolphins hadn't allowed a touchdown for 13 quarters before Robinson's first TD with 55 seconds left in the

# Eagles CB Nmamdi Asomugha injures knee in practice

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Eagles cornerback Nnamdi Asomugha, one of Philadelphia's celebrated free agency acquisitions, injured his left knee during practice Thursday and was taken off the field on a cart.

The Eagles had no comment on the extent of the injury and a team spokesman said Asomugha's status would be updated on Friday.

Asomugha was participating in a non-contact drill on the grass fields adjacent to the team's NovaCare Complex when he was hurt. The 30-yearold, a three-time Pro Bowl pick and four-time All-Pro selection, leads the Eagles (4-6) with three interceptions—two in his last four games.

With Pro Bowl cornerback Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie already out with an ankle injury, the Eagles could be down to just one of their celebrated Pro Bowl cornerback trio of Asante Samuel. Rodgers-Cromartie and Asomugha when they face Tom Brady and the New England Patriots (7-3) at Lincoln Financial Field Sunday.

The Patriots have the secondranked offense in the NFL. The Eagles have allowed 18 touchdown passes. Only three teams have allowed more.

"It's a short-lived career, and to see a guy go down, you just hope it's not as severe as what you saw initially," said cornerback Brandon Hughes, who would likely receive expanded playing time if Asomugha can't play Sunday. "That's what we're hoping."

Asomugha, who spent the 2003 through 2010 seasons with Oakland before signing a five-year. \$60 million contract with the Eagles, has missed just six games in nine seasons.

Because Asomugha plays so many different rolesoutside corner, inside corner and safety-it could be difficult for the Eagles to replace him with just one player. They have only one more practice before Sunday's game.

"We've got to stick to the game plan," strong safety Kurt Coleman said. "Nnamdi's definitely a big piece of what we do on defense, but we have guys we can rotate in, guys who can do similar things Everybody has to step up their game if he can't go. Everybody has to pick up the slack.'

Samuel will start at one cornerback spot Sunday. The other healthy cornerbacks on the roster if Asomugha can't play are veteran Joselio Hanson, who has started 18 games for the 49ers and Eagles since 2003; Hughes, originally a fifth-round pick of the Chargers in 2009; and rookie third-round pick Curtis Marsh.

"One guy goes down, next guy goes in," Marsh said. 'That's why everybody goes to meetings every day, so when you step in, you know exactly what's going on."

Texas QB Schaub back at practice to help Leinart (AP)—Injured HOUSTON Texans quarterback Matt Schaub

was back at practice on Thanksgiving, wearing a protective boot on his right foot as he kept a close eye on his replacement, Matt Leinart.

Schaub sustained a Lisfranc injury in Houston's 37-9 win over Tampa Bay on Nov. 13, and had to give up hope on returning this season after meeting with foot specialist Dr. Robert Anderson in Charlotte on Wednesday.

Houston (7-3) placed Schaub on injured reserve, and Leinart will make his first start at Jacksonville (3-7) on Sunday.

Schaub is scheduled to have surgery in Charlotte next Wednesday. Doctors have assured him his injury is not career-threatening and isn't likely to occur again when he returns to action.

"Once I talked to everyone, there really wasn't an option out there, other than to get it fixed for the long term," Schaub said. "It's pretty positive as far as after the surgery, getting the rehab done and being able to come back, play and be fine."

Coach Gary Kubiak said Schaub will travel with the team this weekend and be available to support Leinart, rookie T.J. Yates and third-stringer Kellen Clemens, who signed with Houston on Wednesday.

"He needs to stay very much involved," Kubiak said. "I think there's a way he can help this team, so we're going to give him a chance to do that. It's just tough to see him standing back there."

But Kubiak isn't sure how much Schaub will be able to help after his surgery. Schaub said he faces a long recovery, starting with 6-8 weeks of nonweight-bearing activity.

"It's not a quick turnaround, as far as rehabilitation," Schaub said. "It's going to be an offseason getting ready and getting right for training camp."

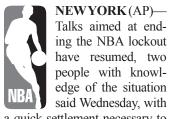
Schaub has been the Texans' starter since 2007, after he was acquired in a trade with Atlanta. He missed five games in his first year with the team because of a shoulder injury and concussion, then sat out five more in 2008, one with an illness and four with a knee injury.

Critics questioned his durability, but Schaub silenced them by starting every game between 2009-10 and the first 10 of this season. He hurt his foot in the second quarter against Tampa Bay and played the entire second half, but said he didn't make the injury more severe by staying in that game.

"Talking to the doctors, there wasn't anything I could do worse to it, other than something new," he said.

So far, Houston has survived remarkably well as one key player after another has gone down with an injury, taking control of the AFC South behind the best 10-game start in team history.

# Sources: Talks resume toward ending NBA lockout



have resumed, two people with knowledge of the situation said Wednesday, with a quick settlement necessary to start the season by Christmas.

The discussions began quietly Tuesday and are expected to continue through the Thanksgiving holiday, the people told The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because the talks were supposed to remain confidential.

The talks between representatives of the owners and players are now centered on settling their lawsuits: The players filed an antitrust lawsuit against the league in Minnesota and the league filed a pre-emptive suit in New York, seeking to prove the lockout was legal.

Neither side commented on the talks, first reported by Yahoo Sports, though the league said in a statement it "remains in favor of a negotiated resolution" to the lockout.

The news revived the hopes of saving the Christmas slate, when the league schedules some marquee matchups to kick off its national TV package. The NBA finals rematch between Dallas and Miami was to headline three games this season

The league had wanted to open a 72-game schedule on



NBA player Roger Mason Jr. speaks as recent draft pick Charles Jenkins, left, and Billy Hunter, executive director of the NBA players union, listen during a news conference Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2011, in New York.

Dec. 15, pushing the start of the playoffs and finals back a week, if players had agreed to the last offer. But players rejected the owners' most recent proposal on Nov. 14, announcing in-

stead they were disbanding the union to pave the way to sue the league.

The plan now would be for 66 games if a resolution comes soon. The league played a 50-

game schedule in 1998-99 during its last lockout, when a deal didn't come until January, so there's still hope of some games this season even if it doesn't include Christmas.

Commissioner David Stern has said it would take about 30 days from an agreement to the start of the regular season.

David Boies, one of the attorneys representing the players, has repeatedly said he hoped the league would be compelled to settle rather than risk a potentially lengthy trial that could end with players being awarded about \$6 billion in damages.

Because the union disbanded, it cannot negotiate a new collective bargaining agreement, but the settlement talks could lead to that. The CBA can only be completed once the union has reformed.

When talks broke down, the sides were still divided over the division of revenues and certain changes sought by owners to curb spending by big-market teams that players felt would limit or restrict their options in free agency. Owners are insistent on a 50-50 split of basketball-related income. Union officials indicated they could be open to that, even though they were guaranteed 57 percent in the old CBA, but only if the league conceded on some of the "system" issues.

With the union no longer representing the players, it was unclear who was involved in the new round of talks. NBPA executive director Billy Hunter is officially part of the players' legal team so he's able to take part in the talks, though his participation in negotiations could strengthen the league's contention that the disclaimer strategy was a "sham" and the union hadn't really gone anywhere.

# Indians bring back OF Grady Sizemore



one that made sense for him. He still belonged with the Indians.

"I wasn't ready to say goodbye and move on," he said.

On Wednesday, the Indians re-signed Sizemore to a oneyear, incentive-based contract, bringing the oft-injured former All-Star outfielder back for another chance to become the electrifying player whose career has been derailed the past three seasons by injuries and

Sizemore's journey into free ency didn't take him very far.

Although there were "good offers from good organizations," Sizemore decided to stay with the one that has patiently waited for him to get healthy.

"They know me better than anybody," Sizemore said.

The Indians, who last month declined a \$9 million option for 2012 on Sizemore, will pay him a base salary of \$5 million next season. The 29-year-old can make another \$4 million based on plate appearances. The deal also includes an awards package that includes \$500,000 if Sizemore is selected comeback player of the year.

The performance bonuses max out with fewer plate appearances than Sizemore had in any season from 2005-08.

Sizemore has undergone five surgeries, including a microfracture procedure on his left knee, the past two years and has only played in 210 games over the last three seasons because of injuries. But the Indians are confident that a healthy Sizemore can help them contend in the AL Central.

"We're obviously optimistic," said general manager Chris Antonetti. "We know that when he's been on the field, he's been a very productive player. We know it's not going to be for 155 or 160 games per year, but we feel optimistic Grady will get back to the point that he is a very good player for us."

Following the World Series, the Indians cut ties with Sizemore by declining the option for next season, making him a free agent for the first time. Antonetti flew to Arizona to personally meet with Sizemore and explain the team's reasons for letting him go. Antonetti said the team was not closing the door on Sizemore and the Indians would gladly re-sign him—at the right price.

That gesture of loyalty, and the team's patience with Sizemore while he was hurt,



In this July 9, 2011, photo, Cleveland Indians' Grady Sizemore rounds the bases after hitting a home run during a baseball game against the Toronto Blue Jays in Cleveland.

meant a lot to him.

As other teams made offers, the Indians stayed in touch with Sizemore's representative and never wavered in their pursuit of one of the club's most popular players.

'The Indians were aggressive in wanting to keep Grady, and he has said all along he would keep an open mind toward returning," said agent Joe

Urbon. "He appreciates the interest from other clubs, and he just felt that the best place to reassert himself as a great player is in Cleveland. He can stay in center field, which is important to him, and he has enjoyed his time there.

"Now, he can focus on his play without the distractions of new surroundings, and he will be a free agent again just after his 30th birthday."

Sizemore acknowledged he had some doubts as he ventured into free agency unsure of his

"I really didn't know what to expect," he said. "I was in the dark a little bit."

But as the process unfolded, it became clear to Sizemoreand the Indians—that they're relationship was not supposed to end Sizemore said he's eager to put the past three years behind him and hopefully help the Indians win.

"It's been frustrating," he said. "I've always loved being a part of this organization and I never pictured myself playing anywhere else."

Sizemore played in only 71 games after beginning last season on the disabled list. He made three trips to the DL and underwent right knee surgery on Oct. 3, just days after his season ended with a .224 batting average 10 homers, 32 RBIs and zero steals for the first time in his career.

Sizemore is continuing to rehab his injury and believes he'll be ready when spring training camp opens in February.

With Sizemore back, and assuming he can stay healthy, the Indians' starting outfielder appears to be settled with Sizemore in center, Michael Brantley in left and Shin-Soo Choo in right. The club still needs to add some depth and Antonetti promised the team will continue "trying to make our ballclub better."

Cleveland is looking for more offensive help, and it's likely the club's focus will be an upgrade at first base. Manager Manny Acta said incumbent first baseman Matt LaPorta will have to earn a roster spot this spring.

Sizemore joined the Indians in 2002, coming over as part of the six-player blockbuster trade that sent ace Bartolo Colon to Montreal. Sizemore's blend of speed and power were unlike any player in club history and he's the only Indians player with at least 100 homers, 200 doubles and 100 steals.

There are skeptics who doubt Sizemore will ever play at the level he once did. He's not worried about anything other than getting ready to play.

"I want to prove to everyone that I can stay healthy and I can perform," he said. "I want to have a healthy year and get back to playing like I know I can."

# TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### **NFL STANDINGS**

# AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East						
New England N.Y. Jets Buffalo Miami	<b>W</b> 7 5 5 3	<b>L</b> 3 5 5 8	<b>T</b> 0 0 0 0	Pct .700 .500 .500 .273	PF 293 228 237 212	PA 203 217 253 206
South Houston Tennessee Jacksonville Indianapolis	7 5 3 0	3 5 7 10	0 0 0	.700 .500 .300 .000	273 203 125 131	166 195 180 300
North Baltimore Pittsburgh Cincinnati Cleveland	8 7 6 4	3 3 4 6	0 0 0 0	.727 .700 .600 .400	272 220 236 145	182 179 195 193
West Oakland Denver San Diego Kansas City	6 5 4 4	4 5 6	0 0 0	.600 .500 .400	235 205 236 144	254 247 259 252

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Dallas	7	4	0	.636	270	225
N.Y. Giants	6	4	0	.600	228	228
Philadelphia	4	6	0	.400	237	213
Washington	3	7	0	.300	160	205
_						
South						
New Orleans	7	3	0	.700	313	228
Atlanta	6	4	0	.600	235	213
Tampa Bay	4	6	0	.400	182	268
Carolina	2	8	0	.200	225	286
North						

Carollila	2	0	U	.200	223	200
North						
Green Bay	11	0	0	1.000	382	227
Chicago	7	3	0	.700	268	207
Detroit	7	4	0	.636	316	246
Minnesota	2	8	0	.200	200	271
West		0		0.40		

0 .400 168 0 .300 190

Yesterday's Games Green Bay 27, Detroit 15 Dallas 20, Miami 19

Baltimore 16. San Francisco 6

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### LOCAL STANDINGS

# SHIRLEY'S CAGING STANDINGS Mobil 7 2 DFS 7 2 Fiesta Resort 7 2 PIC-NVM 6 3 PSS-McGraw Hill 4 5 Shirley's 3 6 Grillin' Restaurant 3 6 Hyatt Regency 3 6

# 3 RBC

From Page 28

ers absorbed a 36-64 loss to the Typhoons. A total of 11 teams make up the division.

Results of Turkey Run's 14A competitive division and Turkey Blast's U25 competitive division were not posted as of press time.

Eight teams make up the U14A class, while the U25 field contains five squads.

Moreover, none of Friday's results were posted as of press time. However the U12 coed Rollers were set to face off with the Raiders Club in an elimination game. In order to advance to Saturday's round of games they will also have to make it past the winner between the Inarajan Hawks and Southern Rai.

U14A's Rollers were the seventh seed in the competitive bracket and faced the second-ranked Typhoons. They would also have to go through the Hawks and the Raiders to advance to Saturday's round of action.

The sixth seeded U18 Rollers took on the Islanders Club yesterday, while U25's Rollers squared off against the MTM Falcons.

All recreational division championships and the U14A competitive finals will be held on Sunday, with the U16, U18 and U25 competitive division playoffs running through Friday, Dec. 2.

RBC fields competitive teams in the U14, U18 and U25 classes; all other squads classified as recreational entrants.

# IT&E Voyagers, Shark Attack remain atop divisions

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com



Jonny's Bar & Grill's IT&E Voyagers and Wild Bill's Bar & Grill's Shark Attack

remained atop their respective Saipan Billiards Association's Agingan and Obyan divisions after the conclusion of Tuesday's 2011 Budweiser Summer/Fall 8-Ball League matchups.

IT&E Voyagers snuck past X-Tream (25-66), 4-3, on the road at VFW Post 3457 to improve its win-loss record to 67-24 and an eight-game cushion in the Agingan Division standings over sister Team IT&E Incredibles (59-32).

Meanwhile, IT&E Incredibles bested Fotten Palau (21-70), 5-2, in a road match at Joe's Sports Bar, while Utopia Bar's Docomo Hustlers (52-39) sits in third place after downing Home Boyz Five (49-42), 4-3, on the road at Jonny's.

Docomo's Senen Pangelinan has ran the rack a league-best five times, while X-Tream's Joseph Achas has twice sunk the 8-ball off the break.

Obyan Division's Shark Attack took the first four singles matches for an automatic victory over D'Pirate Bar's Pirata, 4-3, at home to improve its to 59-32.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Shark Attack, seen here in a file photo, defeated the erstwhile second place team of D'Pirates Bar Pirata in their SBA Summer/Fall Budweiser 8-Ball League match last Tuesday at Wild Bill's Bar & Grill.

The loss dropped Pirata (45-46) into third place in the ranking as Jonny's Team SCS (46-45) pulled out a 4-3 road victory over Titans (36-55) at 19th Hole Bar.

Meanwhile, Crazy 8 (43-48) held it together to snatch a 4-3 upset over 19th Hole's Poksu (44-47) at home in Jonny's.

So far, Team SCS's Erwin Gomez and Crazy 8's Rey Pinangay each have ran the rack three times, while Crazy 8's Zaldy Quebral and Pirata's Dave Maratita have sunk the 8-ball off the break once apiece.

Last Tuesday, IT&E Voyagers welcome the Docomo Hustlers, X-Tream calls over Fotten Palau, and the IT&E Incredibles plays host to Home Boyz Five.

Obyan's Team SCS invites over Poksuthe Titans welcome Shark Attack, and Pirata waves in Crazy 8.

# **SHIRLEY'S**

From Page 28

bil remained cold in the first three minutes of that period, allowing the former to pad the lead to 20, 84-64. Mobil never recovered from thereon.

Jun Estolas paced Mobil with 23 points, but failed to score in streaks in the first three period and made his 11 markers in the fourth when Grillin' had the game already in the bag. Gyles Ruluked added 22. Rabauliman left in the second period with six points and a swollen right shoulder. The accident happened when Roy Hernandez faked off Rabauliman's defense and the lat-

ter bit, went over the former's back, and fell hard on the floor. Rabauliman then tried to prevent his head from slamming to the floor and used his shoulder as cushion.

In the first game, J.R. Barrios and Errol Peredo nailed eight and four points in overtime to lift Shirley's to the one-point victory.

Peredo made all his points from the foul line with his last two free throws, giving Shirley's the slim lead, 100-99, with less than 30 seconds remaining on the clock. Shirley's had a chance to increase the lead when GPPC missed on the other end and Rommel Usi was fouled. However,

Usi missed both charities and GPPC was left with 1.6 seconds to pull of for a game-winning shot.

After Usi's second miss, GPPC collared the rebound and Randy Mungcal had the last shot, but muffed his jumper as time expired.

Barrios top-scored in Shirley's close win with his 32 points, while Kae Bernardo added 18, Marlon De Dios contributed 15, and Usi and Fradel Sedillo chipped in 15 and 10, respectively. Mungcal exploded for 40 markers in GPPC's last game of the season.

# **First Game**

Shirley's 100 – Barrios 32, Bernar-

do 18, De Dios 16, Usi 15, Sedillo 10, Peredo 9.

**GPPC 99** – Mungcal 40, Ocamp 24, Montes 14, Morales 14, Sampang 4, Jalandoni 3.

**Scoring by quarters:** 23-20, 45-43, 62-66, 88-88, 100-99.

# **Second Game**

**Grillin' 98** – Kintz 32, Lerio 21, Pagarao 14, Galarse 13, Ritual 8, Herrera 4, Hernandez 2, Rotap 2, J. Loste 2.

**Mobil 86** – Estolas 23, Ruluked 22, Gamboa 16, Gapor 11, Demapan 8, Rabauliman 6.

**Scoring by quarters:** 26-22 49-44, 76-64, 98-86.

# **GUAM'S**

From Page 28

of Marianas Elite. Fitial is the current Pacific Xtreme Combat heavyweight champion.

Lassiter is looking to bounce back from a submission loss issued by South Korea's Doo Hwan Kim (1-0) last month in PXC 27.

Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez (7-0), meanwhile, will put his featherweight title on the line against Guam's Rob "The Real Deal" Wusstig (2-5) of Counter Shot MMA.

Alvarez is looking to stretch his unbeaten streak to eight. He was awarded a unanimous decision after five grueling rounds with Marianas Elite's Derrick "El Peligro" Rangamar (3-10) in Rites of Passage 11: Onra back in September. Wusstig hasn't notched a win since

July 2008 and lost three fights in 2010, one by submission and two via decision.

Trench Tech's Fasi "Quickdraw" Jesse (7-4) is paired up against Marianas Elite's Maitai "The Charger" Charley (3-7) at 145 lbs.

Both fighters are hungry for a win as Charley endured a tough split decision loss to Trench Tech's "Badd" Brad Palacios (5-3) last June, while Korean Top Team's Jang Yong "The Beast" Kim submitted Jesse with an arm bar in the first round in last month's PXC 27.

In other matchups, Trench Tech's Slade "The Rage" Adelbai (8-4-1D) returns to the octagon after a year off to take on Guam's Martin Pablo in a heavyweight bout at 235 lbs, while Trench Tech's Martin "Ningbo Slice" Cepeda (3-1) will step inside the octagon opposite Counter Shot's Keith Corpuz in a light heavyweight match.

The rest of the fight card for Trench Warz 15: Supremacy are as follows:

- Zalaka's Joe "Da Combo" Duenas (1-0) vs. Counter Shot's Leandro "Leanderlai" Dalalo at 130 lbs;
- Independent fighter Josh "Chaos" Duenas (1-0) vs. either Scotty Eclavea (1-0) or Ricky Camp (2-0) both of Guam's Lights Out Gym;
- Marianas Elite's V.J. Pua (1-0) vs. Guam newcomer Jared Mellon of Spike 22-Ground Fu at 170 lbs;
- Trench Tech's Vince "The Clinch" Masga (1-0) vs. The Fight Shop's Dennis Cruz at 150 lbs;
- Zalaka's Jake "One Blow" Ilo (0-1) vs. Tinian's Craig "Earthquake" Borja (2-1) of Zeng Zung at 140 lbs;
- Zalaka's John Ilo vs. Tinian's Rentz "The Intense" Benghit of Team Relentless in a K-1 Kickboxing match at 145 lbs; and

■ Zalaka's Zac Reyes vs. Tinian-Zeng Zung's George "Kamikaze" Manglona in a boxing match at 145 lbs.

Meanwhile, Mike Salas is on stand by awaiting a boxing opponent at 215 lbs, while Tinian's Pete Cepeda (1-0) of Zeng Zung is awaiting an opponent for an MMA bout at 140 lbs.

Other standby matches include MMA fighters Joe Ray "Manglo" Manglona and Irvin Saralu at 145 lbs; "Badd" Brad Palacios at 145 lbs; and Trench Tech's Mark "The Dark" Nuique (5-0) and Predator Combat's "Tabi" Jay Muna (2-10) at 135 lbs.

The listed MMA records were derived from www.sherdog.com and all matches are subject to change. Tickets will be on sale soon. Contact Trench Tech president Cuki Alvarez at 483-4MMA (4662) for more information.

# **MARGARITO**

From Page 28

if the panel ruled Margarito was not fit to fight, saying other states would have followed New York's lead and banned the Mexican.

Instead, the fight is on and Cotto says he will have no qualms about making Margarito's right eye a target in the fight.

"I'm going to use any kind of advantage I feel I have over him, everything I have in the ring," Cotto said. "I'm going

to fight like always, with my heart and my soul. I'm going to do my work."

Cotto said the uncertainty over where the fight might be held was not a distraction.

"I just focus on my training camp. The other things around the fight are not about us," Cotto said. "We can fight anywhere and we have our health. We just focus on our work."

Helping Cotto's concentration is the conviction that Margarito had plaster in his handwraps when he inflicted the Puerto Rican hero's first defeat, stopping him in the 11th round in 2008.

In Margarito's next fight, plaster was found in his hand wraps before he faced Shane Mosley and after a rewrapping, Margarito lost.

Cotto cites similar red coloring on the Mexican's gloves after his fight and the Mosley fight as evidence to convince him that Margarito used plaster against him, which makes him a "criminal" as far as Cotto is concerned.

"Playing with the health of somebody else, attempting to kill — he used plaster on his wraps, he used a weapon on me — he has to be treated like a criminal," Cotto said. "In sports we use only our skills and conditioning."

Margarito received a 16-month suspension but that seemed insufficient for Cotto, who has waited three years for a chance to avenge the defeat.

"I've carried my loss like a man for the last three years," Cotto said. "I didn't ask for the people to erase the defeat. That's not the issue. He has to accept what he used and what he did in 2008." Saipan Tribune SDOTTS

Ravens beat 49ers in duel of Harbaughs, 16-6 Page 25



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **28** SATURDAY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26-27, 2011

# Shirley's, Grillin' complete playoff cast

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

rillin' and Shirley's secured the last two playoff seats in the 3rd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League after recording contrasting wins last Thursday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Shirley's played in the first game and needed overtime to beat GPPC, 100-99, while Grillin' dominated Mobil in the second match of the night, 98-



Galleria (7-2), Fiesta (7-2), Pacific Islands Club/NVM (6-3), PSS/McGraw-Hill (5-4), and Hyatt Regency Saipan (3-6) in the eight-team playoff round. Wushin (2-7) and GPPC (2-7) are eliminated. Grillin' and Shirley's finished the roundrobin regular season with similar 3-6 record, but the latter will occupy the No. 6 slot in



Grillin' Lerio Pagarao, second left. drives against Mobil's Gil Gapor during the third quarter of their game in the Shirleyu's caging last Thursday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

the playoffs due to the winnerover-the-other rule.

Grillin' delivered in a mustwin game after drawing a big offensive night from James Kintz who then got enough support from Sonny Lero, Lerio Pagarao, and Galarse. All four Grillin' players scored in double figures with Kintz firing 32, Lerio adding 21, and Pagarao and Galarse chippig in 14 and 13, respectively.

With Mobil already in the playoffs and having secured the No. 1 spot in the team standings, coach Marvin Deocares' wards played flat and could not get their offensive game going. Mobil even lost Marvin Rabauliman in the opening minutes of the second quarter due to a bad fall, leaving the team with limited options on offense.

With one scoring threat gone, Grillin' turned a 49-44 lead to a double-digit advantage in the third period, 76-64. Kintz led the third-quarter breakaway with his 12 points, while Pagarao, who missed the first period and was held to two points in the second canto, added eight. Mobil was held to two field goals in the last five minutes of the third period to fall behind by 12, entering the final canto.

Grillin' kept the fire burning in the fourth quarter, while Mo-

> See **SHIRLEY'S** on Page 27

# Guam's Sarusal wants to fight in Trench Warz 15

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND REPORTER

A female mixed martial arts practitioner from Guam is looking forward to brawl again on Saipan and hopes to be in the fight card of Trench Warz 15: Supremacy set for Dec. 16 at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom.

Guam's Gianna "Gia-Baby" Sarusal, of Dededo Boxing Club and Lights Out Gym, is eager to come back for another female boxing exhibition match set in the 130 to 150 lb division.

Interested contenders must be at least 18 years old. Sarusal's last exhibition match resulted in a draw against Saipan's Tara "The Tarantula" Namauleg.

Trench Tech Purebred Promotions, meanwhile, has updated its tentative fight card for Trench Warz 15.

So far 12 fights are listed on the card, which features a heavyweight main event at 230 lbs between Trench Tech's



Guam's Gianna "Gia-Baby" Sarusal wants to return to Saipan for another female boxing exhibition in Trench Warz 15: Supremacy slated for Dec. 16 at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom.

Mylo "Bam Bam" Lassiter (1-1) and Guam's Manny "The Enforcer" Chong (8-8) of the Thug Cop Fight Club.

Chong is returning to the cage after over a two-year hiatus. He lost his last fight back in July 2009 when he was knocked out by Saipan's Kelvin "The Big Hit" Fitial

See GUAM'S on Page 27

# Margarito gets NY license to fight Cotto

Margarito

Cotto



YORK, New York—Antonio Margarito

was given a boxing license on Tuesday by the New York

State Athletic Comallowmission, ing the Mexican's scheduled showdown with Puerto Rico's Miguel Cotto to take place as planned. Cotto, 36-2 with

29 knockouts, defends his World Boxing Association super welterweight title against Margarito, 38-7 with 27 knockouts, on December 3 at Madison Square Garden in a rematch of Mar-

garito's controversial 2008 victory.

The decision by the threeperson panel ended fears the

fight might be scrapped because of damage Margarito suffered to his right eye in a loss to Filipino superstar Manny Pacquiao last November.

Margarito, who has not fought since losing to Pacquiao, underwent surgery to remove a cataract and install an artificial lens in

his eye.

The commission would not assure promoters that Margarito would be allowed to fight until he was examined by a doctor selected by the panel, which was done on Monday. Results of the exam

were provided to the commission on Tuesday.

Cotto had earlier threatened not to fight outside New York See MARGARITO on Page 27

# 3 RBC players are top scorers in Guam tourney

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com REPORTER



Rollers Basketball Club's Wilfred Francisco, Keolani Rose Rios,

and Jun Christopher Fidelino made it on the 2011 Take Care Thanksgiving Hoop Fest's daily top scorers list after the conclusion of their double-header matches at Guam's Tamuning Gymnasium.

In addition, RBC's U12, U14B, U16-U18B, and U16A squads all notched a pair of wins

Rollers' Wilfred Francisco was the top scorer of the day in his Turkey Run's U14B coed recreation matches, bagging 24 points for a 12-point average in two games.

His teammate Jun Christopher Fidelino averaged six points per game, which was good for third place.

Rios fared well in her two Turkey Fly and Shoot U16-U18B coed recreation matches,



tallying a total of 18 points for second place.

Turkey Dash's U12 coed division RBC Rollers defeated the Mongmong Toto Maite Falcons, 38-13, and then took down the Tamuning Typhoons, 36-23, in their second pairing. Six teams make up the field.

Turkey Run's U14B recreation division Rollers defeated the Typhoons 1, 32-19, and then bested the Typhoons 2, 38-16. Four teams make up the age group.

Turkey Fly and Shoot's U16-U18B recreation division Rollers routed the Typhoons, 42-11, and then outlasted the MTM Boy's Falcons, 29-21. Four teams make up the field.

Meanwhile, Turkey Shoot's U18 competitive division Roll-See 3 RBC on Page 27

RBC's Keolani Rios, seen here in a file photo, totaled 18 points in Thursday's U16-U18 recreational division double-header to finish second place in the 2011 Take Car Thanksgiving Hoop Fest's

daily top scorers list in Guam.
WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND